

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Vol VI No 012

20 January 1987

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CONTADORA, OTHER OFFICIALS BEGIN PEACE MISSION

C.A. Foreign Ministers Comment

PA180140 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Report by Roxana Lemus from the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The Central American foreign ministers, excluding the Nicaraguan foreign minister, met today in San Salvador to exchange views on strategy before the upcoming visit through Central America by the OAS and UN secretaries general and the Contadora and Support Group foreign ministers.

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Dr Ricardo Acevedo Peralta said that the four countries have points of agreement in the short term in their search for peace through democracy. He added that they believe in a political and negotiated peace for Central America through the peace effort conducted by Contadora.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] We are meeting here to exchange opinions because of the important events that are about to happen in the Central American area, like the tour of the officials that will begin on the 19th through Central America. [end recording]

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto expressed the wish to create a truly Central American policy to find the formula for peace and democracy in the region. Contadora has not accomplished it because its role has been changed from political negotiation into a court of justice by the Nicaraguan Government.

Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras said that not all international or unilateral military actions interfere with the process to search for peace in Central America. He added that the maneuvers they are conducting with the United States are of a peaceful nature.

[Begin Lopez Contreras recording] They are maneuvers of a peaceful nature, for training purposes, and they are open. Observers from the area countries have been invited. Second, from the point of view of Honduran security, they represent a response to a threat of a permanent nature, which is the military development of Nicaragua and as an expression of the Soviet presence in Central America. There is, however, a fundamental difference. The Soviet presence in Nicaragua is permanent and the military maneuvers are transient and they [U.S. troops] will leave. [end recording]

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezcuita also said that peace is difficult to achieve, but it is not impossible to reach. The Contadora process has been good so far, but achieving peace takes time, particularly because they have no power over the superpowers.

After several hours of meetings elapsed, the position [words indistinct] that the four Central American foreign ministers will adopt is not yet clear, and the delegation headed by the UN and OAS secretaries general and the Contadora and Support Group foreign ministers is about to arrive.

Officials Convene in Panama

PA191729 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0539 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Panama City, 19 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- A long day of debates ended just before midnight in this capital in preparation for the Central America peace mission to revive Contadora.

The Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia) foreign ministers, the Support Group (Argentina, Peru, Brazil, and Uruguay) ministers, and the OAS and UN secretaries general met from 1045 (1545 GMT) yesterday morning till 2330 [0430 GMT] at a local hotel, with breaks for meals.

Panama's Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias, visibly tired, upon leaving the last meeting said: "It has been a very tiring meeting, but we have reached very basic agreements for tomorrow's tour."

Abadia added: "We all feel very optimistic. We all believe that a peaceful agreement for the area will be reached."

He added: "We have analyzed the points with regard to the Central American presidents and we believe they agree that Contadora is the only way to go."

The Contadora negotiations became bogged down in June 1986 when the Central American countries received from the peace group a peace treaty which was the result of 3 and 1/2 years of work, and which up to now they have not wanted to sign.

Abadia insisted that the tour will allow the Contadora Group, its Support Group, and the OAS and UN secretaries general to "listen" to the Central American countries.

Abadia stated that no formal proposal had been prepared at yesterday's session and all that was drawn up were "harmonization documents" for the problems that Contadora believes the Central American countries have as of today.

These documents were described by Peru's Foreign Minister Alan Wagner as "guidelines to talk to each and every one of the five countries, in an overall way. [no end quote marks as received]

The peace mission visits Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Guatemala on Monday and on Tuesday will travel to Honduras and El Salvador. The group then goes to Mexico to draw up the tour's conclusions.

Group Arrives in Costa Rica

PA191506 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1451 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] San Jose, 19 Jan (EFE) -- The foreign ministers of the Contadora and Support Groups and the OAS secretary general have arrived in Costa Rica, the first leg of a Central American peace mission.

The eight foreign ministers and Joao Clemente Baena Soares arrived at 1415 GMT aboard a Panamerican Air Force plane, approximately 15 minutes after the arrival of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The diplomatic mission was welcomed at the Juan Santamaria International Airport by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto and Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Rivera. The mission then left for a hotel in west San Jose.

They will be holding a working session with Costa Rican President Oscar Airas and at noon will travel to Managua, second stop in their tour.

The diplomats refused to make statements to the press waiting for them in the airport. Sources close to the group of travelers said that statements to the press will be issued in Mexico at the end of the Central American tour.

Today's trip was preceded by lengthy debates yesterday in Panama where the 10 diplomats tried to draw up a number of guidelines for their talks with the Central American governments.

Ortega Presents Proposals

PA200225 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2156 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Marta Alicia Amador report from Managua's Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center]

[Text] Comrade President Daniel Ortega Saavedra is right now meeting with the Contadora and Support Groups' foreign ministers and discussing the measures to contribute to peace in Central America that are included in a document presented by President Ortega during a meeting he held with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, and the Contadora and Lima Groups' foreign ministers. The meeting was held in Managua on 19 January 1987.

The basic statements expressed by the president were as follows:

1. Nicaragua reiterated its categorical support for the peace efforts by the Contadora and Lima Groups that converge in the political willingness that historically represents the clearest expression of regional solidarity in the defense of sovereignty, independence, and self-determination of the Latin American peoples. Nicaragua opined that these noble efforts have been strengthened by the important presence of the UN and OAS secretaries general on this peace tour through Central America.

2. Nicaragua stated that the U.S. policy of war and pressure has intensified against the independence and sovereignty of Nicaragua. However, Nicaragua is willing to reach bilateral agreements that will guarantee everyone their legitimate concerns over U.S. security in the region. Nicaragua urged the secretaries general and the Contadora and Lima Groups' foreign ministers to continue striving so that the United States will conduct bilateral negotiations with Nicaragua, with the view toward normalizing its relations based on a strict observance of the norms and international commitments that have been freely signed by both parties in a sovereign manner, as an initial step in beginning to resuce its international credibility.

In this manner, the United States would be abiding by the 27 June 1986 ICJ ruling by immediately ending all the military and paramilitary actions against Nicaragua. This is what the court ordered. Nicaragua is demanding an end to U.S. aggression, which would create the proper conditions for fully implementing -- without any restrictions -- the Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua, promulgated on 9 January of this year. The Constitution voices the sovereign will of the Nicaraguan people and institutionalizes a truly democratic political system with pluralism, mixed economy, and nonalignment.

3. Nicaragua is willing to resume immediately negotiations on pending issues concerning the document on Central American peace and cooperation that are yet to be settled, according to the proposal officially presented by Nicaragua last June to the last official proposal presented by Contadora. Likewise, Nicaragua maintains its determination to present the following issues at the beginning of the negotiations:

- a. a proposal on a point system (sistema de puntaje) for military issues
- b. an inventory of the military issues that are subject to reduction, limitation, or elimination.

4. Concerning the suits filed against Costa Rica and Honduras before the ICJ:

a. President Ortega explained that this resource is recognized as the supreme court for the peaceful solution of conflicts, and that there is no basis for describing it as contrary to the [word indistinct] interests.

b. He explained that it is not incompatible to negotiate an overall regional treaty and resorting to the ICJ for the violations of previous international commitments. The fact that regional treaties are being negotiated does not entail the right to violate international agreements that have been signed in a free and sovereign manner, such as the UN and OAS Charters.

c. Nicaragua feels that not only does it have the right to resort to the ICJ to solve its bilateral conflicts with Costa Rica and Honduras, but that it has the obligation to do this according to the Bogota pact, which calls for resorting to all means of peaceful solution in situations that jeopardize international peace and security. Inasmuch as the numerous bilateral and unilateral negotiations in addition to the (?efforts) by various countries have failed, and the fact the threat of a regional war is closer all the time -- as Contadora has pointed out -- (?the cases before the ICJ become an imperative to solve).

d. The Nicaraguan Government invited the Costa Rican Government to resume immediately the bilateral talks that were begun in 1984 under the auspices of Contadora, and invites the Honduran Government to initiate a similar process that will lead to concluding an extrajudiciary agreement.

e. Such negotiations should culminate with bilateral agreements with Costa Rica, and later with Honduras, that will guarantee the security and inviolability of borders, and also should include clauses that will point out that in the event these agreements are violated, the case should then be taken to the ICJ.

5. Nicaragua proposed the immediate signing of an agreement among the five Central American countries on basic issues of international law that will include effective on-site mechanisms of verification and control that entail the principles of nonintervention, inviolability of borders, and nonsupport of irregular forces in any Central American country.

6. Nicaragua upholds that political pluralism in both the international and domestic fields can be the basic characteristic of Central American democratic societies. Therefore, it is not only democracy, but also peace that is being threatened when countries injure their sovereignty and allow themselves to be used as instruments of aggression against another state. Therefore, it goes against peace efforts and political pluralism to intervene in the internal and external political affairs of the Central American states, and to order methods for economic, political, and social organization.

7. The UN and OAS secretaries general presented in November 1986 a document that contained a list of actions that could contribute to peace in Central America. Nicaragua feels that the proposal included in Article 1, Paragraph A of the secretaries general's document is particularly important. This proposal concerns international surveillance of borders.

8. Nicaragua reiterated its willingness to receive, with all legal guarantees, Nicaraguans involved in counterrevolutionary activities who wish to receive the benefits of the amnesty law, in addition to those refugees who are in Honduras and Costa Rica and wish to return voluntarily. Likewise, Nicaragua would cooperate with the Honduran and Costa Rican Governments and carry out efforts before third countries that could receive the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who do not wish to receive the benefits of the amnesty law.

9. Nicaragua pointed out the urgency to conclude the Latin American plans and proposals for Central America as announced on 18 December in Rio de Janeiro, and suggested that -- as a result of this special tour through Central America -- a group of experts be formed in order to carry out this project.

[Dated] Managua, 19 January 1987

ALFONSIN CONDEMNS KIDNAPPING OF FEBRES CORDERO

PY170042 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2139 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today expressed his repudiation of the kidnapping of Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero by a military unit of that country, and he also expressed his (?solidarity) with the chief of state and people of that South American nation.

This was reported by Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez at Government House. He also indicated that Alfonsin was informed at his Olivos residence about the events that led up to Febres' kidnapping.

The spokesman indicated that Alfonsin repudiated the attempt to undermine constitutional order in Ecuador.

CAPUTO, URUGUAY'S IGLESIAS DEPART FOR PANAMA

PY181859 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1144 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jan (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo departed at 0835 [1135 GMT] for Panama, where he will participate in the meetings of the Contadora Group and its Support Group. These two groups are going to begin another round of meetings to try and achieve peace in the Central American region.

Caputo is traveling to the meeting in the company of Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Raul Alconada Sempe and Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias.

LONDON TO PROTECT EXCLUSION ZONE BY FORCE

PY191810 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] British Secretary of State for Defense George Younger, who has just returned from a visit to the Malvinas Islands, has reiterated that the London government will use force to protect the exclusion zone around the islands.

In statements to the press, Younger said that if necessary the British Government will transfer troops to the Malvinas Islands.

GASS COMMENTS ON STATE OF FALKLANDS DIALOGUEExplains Bronfman's Role

PY191827 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Senator Adolfo Gass, president of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, today said that businessmen or companies connected with Argentina and the United Kingdom will not force us to sit at the negotiating table to talk about the Malvinas without including the sovereignty issue.

Gass also confirmed that the reports about an important leader of the international Jewish community having talked to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher about this issue are absolutely true.

Gass explained that no official contacts have been established between Argentina and Great Britain regarding Malvinas negotiations.

Regarding the intervention of Edgar Bronfman, president of the Jewish World Council, Gass said that it was not an Argentine Government move. However, Bronfman, an important international businessman who has very good relations with the British Government as an importer of Scottish malt, consumed throughout the world including Argentina, talked with Foreign Ministry officials and some congressmen to ask what could be done to improve Argentine-British relations.

The only thing that happened is that he was informed about all the moves being made through international organizations in an effort to lead Argentina and Great Britain to the negotiating table to discuss general subjects. Bronfman understood this and he said that he would talk with Margaret Thatcher at the first opportunity, Gass stated.

The senator remarked that Bronfman did not take any message to Great Britain. What he did promise and surely did comply with, was to hold a conversation with Mrs. Thatcher, trying to seek a government-to-government talk. This action could have concrete results in the future, Gass concluded.

Caputo Reaffirms Goals

PY191845 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1428 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (EFE) -- Senator Adolfo Gass, president of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo have accused Great Britain of refusing to establish a dialogue on the Malvinas Islands.

Gass, from the ruling Radical Civic Union [UCR] Party, today said that despite this fact, "they will not force us to discuss anything without including the sovereignty issue."

Gass said that President Alfonsin's administration "has carried out all necessary negotiations before international organizations and has tried by all means to improve Argentine relations with Great Britain."

In turn, Caputo has said that "unfortunately Argentina always faces a situation in which Great Britain denies the possibility of establishing a dialogue."

Caputo added that "despite Britain's refusal to establish a dialogue, Argentina will continue with its objective of reaffirming its rights over the Malvinas Islands."

Caputo said that "all the elements to strengthen Argentine claims are being created before the international community through dialogue and reason."

"The Malvinas Islands issue is a slow process, which must be approached with a long-term strategy. Within this strategy we are making progress step by step," Caputo explained.

SOCIAL SECURITY SECRETARY CAPUCCIO RESIGNS

PY172001 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] (DYN) -- Social Security Secretary Emilio Capuccio resigned yesterday after three years at the helm of the pension system. Labour Secretary Roberto Bigatti was mentioned as the most likely replacement for Capuccio while Labour Undersecretary Armando Caro Figueroa would take the place of Bigatti. Sources close to the departing government official pointed out that Capuccio "does not want to comment" on the possible reasons for his departure, but rumours consistently pointed to his annoyance over the crisis in the pension system. Capuccio had already presented his resignation last November, following a Supreme Court Ruling ordering the government to pay pensioners the 82 percent of pre-retirement wages stipulated in current laws. The former social security secretary was said to be in favour of raising pensions at the time but Economy Ministry officials refused to abandon plans to lower the fiscal deficit. Bigatti is expected to be sworn in on Tuesday together with newly-appointed Interior Secretary Jaun Radonjic, who is replacing the new mayor of Buenos Aires, Facundo Suarez Lastra.

Bigatti Named Replacement

PY182056 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Jan 87 p 15

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin yesterday accepted the resignation of Social Security Secretary Emilio Capuccio while official sources confirmed that Labor secretary Roberto Bigatti would replace him as head of the pension system.

Sources on Friday confirmed that the culture and media areas will be combined into one state department, at the head of which will be current Central Bank adviser and former social action undersecretary Carlos Bastianes, a Radical official politically linked to the National Coordinating Board faction led by Enrique Nosiglia.

The new culture and media department will have some autonomy within the jurisdiction of the culture and education ministry while its president will participate in national cabinet meetings.

The sources said the definite name and final details of the structure of the new department are to be discussed this weekend and the announcement will be made tomorrow.

The public information department (SIP) will disappear as such. Current SIP president Juan Radonjic will take over as Interior Secretary next Tuesday, replacing Facundo Suarez Lastra, who is the new mayor of Buenos Aires.

It was also uncertain who was to be named culture secretary but the sources rejected Francisco Delich as a choice, and rather pointed to Lower House education committee chairman Radical Deputy Adolfo Stubrin (Santa Fe).

GOVERNMENT REPUDIATES FEBRES KIDNAPPING

PY170033 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2248 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] La Paz, 16 Jan (EFE) -- In a communique released today by the Foreign Ministry, the Bolivian Government demands the release of Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero and the full restoration of his constitutional powers.

The communique expresses the total solidarity of President Victor Paz Estenssoro and his government with President Febres, who "has been the victim of a vile kidnapping that is an attack against the democracy of that nation (Ecuador)."

MINISTERS OUTLINE NEGOTIATIONS TO PURCHASE DEBT

PY171308 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 11 Jan 87 p 1

[Excerpts] Two hotel-managing enterprises and some private sector enterprises have been able to purchase their foreign debt at 15 percent of their original value, Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal told PRESENCIA. He also revealed that Bolivian Ambassador to the United States Fernando Illanes is negotiating the purchase of the public foreign debt from 128 private banks at 15-20 percent of its original value. [passage omitted]

Regarding the negotiations being conducted by Ambassador Illanes to purchase the \$660-million public foreign debt from 128 private banks -- most of them U.S. banks -- Minister Bedregal said that concrete results have not yet been obtained. I understand, he said, that prices for such purchases fluctuate between 15 and 20 percent, and negotiations are being conducted on that basis."

Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada, questioned by PRESENCIA, said that no purchase of the public foreign debt has yet been made. [passage omitted]

Minister Lozada said the prices for foreign debt purchases in the secondary market have been pegged at 7 and 1/2 and 12 cents on the dollar, but that the prices may have increased to 15 cents on the dollar because the market fluctuates quite a bit. [passage omitted]

He also said: "Bolivia has considerably improved its financial image in the world because it reached an agreement with the IMF in June, and has thus managed to establish a framework for negotiating its debt with other countries and multilateral organizations."

BARTHELEMY CITES POLITICAL POWER OF DRUG MAGNATES

PY171401 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy Martinez has stated that in a short time the Bolivian people may be at the mercy of a superstate and of the families controlling drug trafficking. He added that the drug trafficking magnates might gain control of election campaigns with large sums of money, which, in less than 10 years, would permit the forming of a superstate.

Asked about the situation of corruption among high-level officials of the administration, the interior minister said that drug traffickers are clearly demonstrating that they are using the weapon of corruption in political and administrative circles, but that this has not yet reached government levels.

He said: We do not wish to make unfounded accusations, but in the last 10 years no other government has demonstrated more clearly than the current one its political will to fight drug trafficking, accepting the political risks involved in this. As an example he mentioned the decision to call for the intervention of a U.S. task force in the country.

AUTHORITIES KILL DRUG TRAFFICKER, SEIZE COCAINE

PY192210 Paris AFP in Spanish 1323 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] La Paz, 18 Jan (AFP) -- The Operational Task Command [Comando de Tareas Operativas -- CTO] today reported that one drug trafficker was killed, six people were arrested, and 54 kg of cocaine was seized during the latest operations against drug trafficking in the Chapare region of central Bolivia.

The CTO, which coordinates the actions of the police and Armed Forces, indicated that the operations were conducted in the Eterazama and Ishinota regions, where drug trafficking operations have been taking place for the last few days.

According to the official report, the dead drug trafficker is Antonio Choque, who was shot when he tried to escape on a motorcycle into the jungle.

Those arrested are Freddy Flores, Andres Castillo, Ceferino Arancibia, Fernando Mujica, Efrain Mercado, and Elena Olivera. They all had drugs in their possession.

The CTO reported that actions in the Chapare and Santa Cruz regions have intensified because this is the area where the cocaine trafficking for shipment abroad is taking place.

DISSIDENTS 'DISSOLVE' CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY

PY171352 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] There is a deep crisis in the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. Hundreds of its members have released a document containing the resolution to dissolve the party. Dr Remo Di Natile and deputies Daniel Quevedo and Rene Cabrera appear to be responsible for the measure. They have also announced that they will present a new political plan to the Bolivian people at 1130 today at a public meeting on Montes Avenue. At the meeting the PDC dissidents will explain the basic reasons that have led them to form a new political party.

The PDC (?dissidents) accuse the party leaders of having placed the party at the service of the mining oligarchy and private interests with a total disregard for Christian philosophical principles and values. Therefore, in a resolution released yesterday, they have decided to dissolve the PDC and leave all its members in complete freedom to make the decision dictated by their conscience.

SARNEY, PARAGUAY'S STROESSNER SPEAK AT ITAIPU

Sarney Praises 'Integration'

PY161733 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 1235 GMT 16 Jan 87

[President Jose Sarney's speech at the dedication of two new turbines on the Brazilian side of the Itaipu Hydroelectric Dam on the Parana River -- live in Portuguese]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency, Army General Alfredo Stroessner, president of the Republic of Paraguay. Ladies and gentlemen. Mr President: We meet here once again in a new demonstration of friendship between Brazilians and Paraguayans. Itaipu is once again the majestic and impressive stage of a meeting between two peoples united by a common project and an example of integration and cooperation in Latin America. Itaipu is a recent example of our relations, one of many initiatives of great significance and great variety. Itaipu is the most simple and most perfect example of integration.

More than an enterprise, Itaipu is a cathedral of concrete and steel erected by the secular friendship of two countries which has marked profound changes in this region. [applause] [passage omitted]

With great enthusiasm, as president of Brazil, together with the president of Paraguay, I dedicate the first two turbines on the Brazilian side of Itaipu. These turbines will add 1.4 million kw to that which is being produced by the other four turbines already operating on the other side of the river.

In 1987, in addition to the two 60-cycle generators, three other turbines will be commissioned, thus totaling nine generators capable of producing 6.3 million kw -- that is, half of Itaipu's capacity. This energy will meet 25 percent of the consumption of the southern, southeastern, and central-eastern regions of Brazil, and a significant portion of the needs of Paraguay. [passage omitted]

In 1987 and 1988, Itaipu will supply almost 90 percent of the energy requirement for the southern and southeastern regions of Brazil. Without the 4 million kw generated by Itaipu, both Brazil and Paraguay would experience serious problems with their planned development. Itaipu is today an essential condition for the development of our countries. [applause] [passage omitted]

Mr President, this ceremony reminds us of the Latin American quest for an effective integration of its economy. Integration opens a path that affects us all, and at the same time makes our projects and aspirations feasible. An awareness prevails in the region that the development and prosperity of our countries will never be achieved in an isolated manner. [applause]

On the contrary, we will have better conditions to achieve these objectives through the exchange of our resources, of our efforts, and of our knowledge.

Thus, we will be able to achieve for Latin America a worthy and solid place in the international sector. This is the desire expressed today by the Latin American countries. [applause]

Brazil and Paraguay have much to contribute for regional integration. We contribute toward this integration with concrete projects such as infrastructures, border projects, and interconnections that are essential for trade and cooperation in the steel, education, and other sectors. This is a path we are going to follow. [passage omitted]

Stroessner on Foreign, Domestic Issues

PY161756 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 1210 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner's speech at dedication of Turbines Nos 14 and 15 on Brazilian side of Itaipu Hydroelectric Dam -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Jose Sarney; former president of the Republic, General Ernesto Geisel [applause]; ladies and gentlemen:

Summoned by the friendship ties that link our two countries, we have gathered here for another important moment in the development of this gigantic project, the Itaipu hydroelectric dam the largest of its kind in the world. Today we are going to make two more turbines operational, turbines Nos 14 and 15, within the framework of the operation schedule that is being fulfilled normally. These two 60-cycle turbines will join the four 50-cycle turbines already in operation.

The turbines we are going to put into operation today are the first 60-cycle turbines. Each of these turbines has a capacity of 700,000 kw.

In order to appreciate the progress being made we should point out that this year another 50-cycles turbine is scheduled to become operational. Itaipu will then have seven turbines producing a total of 4,900,000 kws. [passage omitted]

We have chosen to use constructive language and behavior rather than taking positions that only result in theories. Paraguayan-Brazilian friendship enhances Latin American ideals. This friendship is a compendium of thoughts and feelings that unites us with the purpose of rejecting whatever divides us and encouraging whatever consolidates this worthy and encouraging friendship. [applause]

We are fulfilling our duty to history and the future because we are not producing a catalog of good intentions but rather a trail of work inspired by the unyielding spiritual unity of two countries, Paraguay and Brazil, summoned to occupy an important place in history because of their outstanding virtues.

The Republic of Paraguay exercises a clear and coherent foreign policy based on respect for the principles of the self-determination of the people, and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries. [applause]

We support the noble spirit of cooperation with friendly countries based on shared efforts for progress and happiness.

Our country lives in peace, and with this peace it defends throughout the world the values that are the sacred patrimony of the Western and Christian world.

We believe in the well-being of the people achieved in freedom, which guarantees the dignity of human beings and the search for better days for mankind within the framework of a democratic society, aware of the challenges that social justice poses.

Work is our permanent goal, it is the moral imperative of our policy, and in the fulfillment of social aspirations it serves the common well-being.

Undoubtedly, now is not the time to compile lists of plans and engage in rhetoric in Latin America. It is our inalienable duty to encourage efforts to increase the living standards of our countries as a worthy response to current needs and to the demands of the future.

The Republic of Paraguay and the Federative Republic of Brazil, aware of the current demands, are working to offer a magnificent example of the positive use of bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

It is obvious that the international economic system needs to be reorganized in order to be fair. The highly industrialized countries, which have implemented protectionist measures, contribute to creating an environment that is conducive to their own objectives. They do not abide by the basic rules of justice and solidarity upon which the peace and future of all nations depend to a great extent.

The Paraguayan economy is successfully confronting the problems created by external factors. We are in full solidarity with the Latin American countries suffering under burdens derived from the foreign debt problem. The developing countries are legitimately seeking social and economic development, and it is fair to interpret their claims with historic awareness.

Mr President, this marvelous dam shows the spirit of creativity, tenacity, and skill of its directors, technicians, and all the Paraguayan and Brazilian workers who have united their efforts to build this monumental work, which has been praised by the international community. We would like to express our recognition to all them through the general directors of the project, Ney Braga and Ezo Debernardi. [applause]

Itaipu is the justified hope of the Paraguayan people, who are developing in peace. The government has made into reality the just hopes of one political organization, the National Republican Association, the Colorado Party, which has given us this responsibility. [applause] This party was founded by a great historic figure, General Bernardino Caballero. [applause]

This political organization is categorically the majority party of Paraguay. It is an organization which, on 11 September 1987, will celebrate 100 years of existence dedicated to freedom, justice, and democracy. [applause]. We are proud of the peace without terrorism and violence that we have ensured. Paraguay is developing with the spirit of work of its people and with the support of a state of law, and the enforcement of a Constitution that was drawn up by four political parties offering full guarantees to the people through periodic honest elections and the pluralistic integration in the Senate, Chamber of Deputies, municipal councils, and electoral courts. [applause]

We guard our peace with firmness. We respect human rights and protect our democracy so that no totalitarianism can stain it. We use the mandate we received from the people through votes with decision to maintain political coexistence under which Paraguayans and foreigners work in an environment of order and security under the reign of the law. [applause] [passage omitted]

FORMER HAITIAN POLICE CHIEF DENIED ASYLUM

PY170155 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Former Haitian Police Chief Albert Pierre will have to seek asylum in another country through international agencies such as Charitas International, or the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry's instructions were submitted to the Justice Ministry which 10 days ago asked the Foreign Ministry to evaluate Pierre's asylum situation.

The justice minister had suggested that Canada would be a good place for Pierre to seek asylum since his wife is already living in that country. However the Brazilian Foreign Ministry has not contacted the Canadian Government about this issue. Baby Doc's former chief of police was released today. This was done to allow him to contact the proper international institutions. However, he is under surveillance.

GOVERNMENT, BUSINESSMEN, LABOR AGREE ON TRUCE

PY162257 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The most important result of a meeting held yesterday at the Labor Ministry, and attended by labor union representatives, businessmen, and Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto, was the agreement on a social truce for national accord. This is the first time in 20 years that such a truce has been reached.

After 4 hours of discussion, the three delegations decided to establish a 90 to 120-day truce in order to allow the Brazilian economy to get moving again. Besides the unanimous decision to approve Minister Pazzianotto's proposal for the truce, no other agreement was reached. However, they did establish a 20 January deadline for the government, businessmen, and workers to present proposals for the accord. Another meeting is scheduled for 1000 on 20 January.

Sergipe Senator Albano Franco, president of the National Confederation of Industries, stated the objective of the truce.

[Begin Franco recording] The objective of the truce is to decide how to control inflation without adopting recessive policies for the country. [end recording]

According to Senator Albano Franco, a direct result of the truce agreed upon yesterday should be the reduction of the February inflation rate to a one digit figure, since the projection for January is 14 to 16 percent.

During the meeting with businessmen and labor leaders, Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto read a list of topics on which the government wants workers and businessmen to present proposals in order to establish a social pact. The main items are: discussion of salaries and retirement plans, salary bonuses, maintenance of the salary escalator clause, return to collective negotiations, reduction of inflation, and price controls. [passage omitted]

According to Finance Minister Dilson Funaro, the truce is important as long as it helps control inflation.

[Begin Funaro recording] The truce is very important, because we see signs of the return of high inflation rates in Brazil. It is important to stop the process that pushes inflation to such high levels, because then interests increase and prices are adjusted, creating the idea that tomorrow's prices will be higher. The simple mention of a price freeze scares businessmen and forces companies to make adjustments. This process has to be dismantled, and that is what makes the truce important. It will destroy the idea that we have to live with high inflation rates. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Meeting Viewed as Success

PY172050 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Civil Cabinet Chief Marco Maciel has termed the meeting held by Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto, managers, and workers as satisfactory. According to Maciel, the most important step now is to maintain the dialogue that has been started, and to discuss the proposals. In his opinion, the most important part of Pazzianotto's mission was to initiate talks between workers and managers.

Regarding the 90-day truce proposed by the government, the minister said that there must be further discussion.

Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes also termed the meeting between the government, workers, and managers as positive. Guimaraes said that the most important thing is the feeling of partnership. He added that no one is forced to agree on all points, but, he said, there must be dialogue.

Guimaraes, who is optimistic about Brazilian possibilities of overcoming its economic crisis, said that Brazil is bigger than any crisis, and that, therefore, he has no doubts that the government will overcome this one.

SENATOR: SARNEY TO ANNOUNCE CRUZADO PLAN III

PY191748 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The Liberal Front Party (PFL) leader in the Senate, Carlos Chiarelli, has reported that President Sarney will personally announce the Cruzado Plan III before the end of the week. Chiarelli confirmed that his party will insist on a strict control of the interest rates, and an increase of the minimum wage, which will be 1,500 cruzados.

Senator Carlos Chiarelli has also said that the PFL is in favor of an agricultural policy to put an end to supply problems, and demands that the pensions of 11 million retired or sick Brazilians be improved.

CENTRAL BANK HEAD DENIES RESIGNATION, IMF COMMENT

PY191806 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Central Bank President Fernaldo Bracher returned to the country yesterday. Bracher denied having said in the United States that Brazil may resort to the IMF, and added that the pain is not so bad that we have to take medicine. Bracher also denied having tendered his resignation.

The Central Bank president refuted all criticism that holds him responsible for the high interest rate policy. He asserted that the Central Bank has never endorsed policies that promote the increase of the interest rates.

PINOCHET EXPRESSES 'CONCERN' OVER FEBRES INCIDENT

PY162345 Paris AFP in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Santiago, 16 Jan (AFP) -- In a letter sent to the Ecuadoran Government, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet today expressed his deep concern over the kidnapping of Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero.

In a telegram addressed to Vice President Blasco Penaherrera, Pinochet expresses deep concern over the crisis affecting the Ecuadoran sister-nation: We hereby express to Your Excellency our heartfelt desire for a prompt normalization of the situation.

Moreover, Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle sent a telegram to acting Foreign Minister Hernan Veintimilla in which he states that in view of the serious crisis affecting this sister-nation he expresses his sincere wishes for a prompt solution to the crisis.

Chilean Foreign Ministry spokesman Pablo Valdez, who disclosed this information, added that we are in permanent telex and telephone contact with our Chilean ambassador in Quito, Ambassador Octavio Errazuriz.

MORE ARRESTS REPORTED IN PINOCHET ATTACK CASE

3 'Extremists' Arrested

PY200051 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Three extremists involved in the attack against the president have been arrested. The three subversives were put at the disposal of Military Prosecutor Fernando Torres Silva. This information was provided by Prosecutor Torres Silva. Asked about the subversives' involvement in the attack against the president, Torres Silva said that this is under investigation. The names of the subversives involved in the attack at Cajon del Maipo on 7 September 1986 were not given. The three subversives were arrested by members of the National Intelligence Center [CNI].

Torres Silva earlier talked with reporters about the clandestine arsenals case. He said that the last two individuals put at his disposal on 13 January have been indicted and are now being held incommunicado. They are Claudio Ezequiel Vergara Dias and Erazmo (Mayorinca) Chavez. With the indictment of these two subversives, 32 terrorists have now been indicted for involvement in the arsenals case. Torres Silva said that as a result of the arrest of the two subversives, officials have obtained important information with which to continue the investigation. Regarding a visit to the site in the northern part of the country where the arsenals were found, Torres Silva said he will decide in the next few days whether to visit the site.

Doctor, Nurse Implicated

PY200115 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0030 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Santiago, 19 Jan (EFE) -- Two more individuals have been arrested and placed at the disposal of the Military Courts. These two allegedly gave medical assistance to subversives who were wounded during the attack against President Augusto Pinochet on 7 September 1986.

A communique released today by the Government Social Communications Agency (Dinacos) states that the arrested persons are: Dr Pedro Marin and nurse Olga Berghilz, who carried out functions in the clinics of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, which is considered to be the armed branch of the Chilean Communist Party.

The attack against Pinochet, in which 5 of his bodyguards were killed and 11 officers were wounded, is being investigated by Military Prosecutor Fernando Torres, whose investigation has led to the arrest of 16 people considered to be perpetrators, accessories after the fact, or people who helped the perpetrators. Marin and Berghilz must now be added to this number.

DETAINEES ADMIT INVOLVEMENT IN ARSENALS CASE

PY160155 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0447 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Santiago, 14 Jan (EFE) -- In a public statement, released today by relatives, five detainees involved in the case concerning the arsenals discovered in northern Chile admitted that they were involved in "the preparation of military groups and in supplying them with necessary equipment."

Sergio Buschmann, Claudio Molina, Jose Moya Toro, Alfredo Malbrich, and Victor Molina Donoso, who are currently under detention by orders of the Military Courts, stated that they were involved in the installation of the arsenals in northern Chile, which were discovered in August 1986, and that they were assigned this task as FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] militants.

They added that "with the goal of safeguarding the security of innocent people we decided to publicly report to our people now and not before the development of this mission."

More than 3,500 submachine guns, 2 tons of explosives, a large amount of communications equipment, and Soviet-made rockets and rocket launchers were found in the arsenals discovered by security forces.

In their statement, the people who have now confessed that they were involved in the arms traffic and in guerrilla training are urging "all patriots to resort to all methods of struggle."

The FPMR is described by the Chilean military regime as "the armed branch of the Communist Party."

COURT QUESTIONS BISHOP ON CARABINERO'S DEATH

PY171738 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Santiago Auxiliary Bishop Msgr Sergio (Vales) was questioned at the Military Court for 2 and 1/2 hours on the death of Carabinero Miguel Vasquez. Judge Fernando Torres had been willing to question the bishop at the latter's home, but Msgr (Vales) refused this privilege, and expressed his desire to answer the questions in Court. The Santiago auxiliary bishop, who is also the Archbishopric secretary general, arrived at the court at 0830 and was questioned by Judge Torres until 1100. Msgr (Vales) went to the court in the company of Archbishopric Pastoral Vicar General Msgr (Cristian Fretes) and Vicariate of Solidarity Lawyer Alejandro Gonzalez. Msgr (Vales) told the press that he was questioned only concerning the death of Carabinero Vasquez Escobar.

The reporters asked Msgr (Vales) if he believed that this trial could stain the image of the Church or of the Vicariate of Solidarity.

[Begin (Vales) recording] This trial involved certain members of the Vicariate, but it does not affect its prestige. [end recording]

Msgr (Vales) also said that no other questioning has been scheduled, and that he is ready to go to court whenever necessary.

[Begin (Vales) recording] The judge asked me questions I had already answered. The questioning was friendly [words indistinct] [end recording]

In conclusion, Msgr (Vales) rejected the possibility that the court questioning might impair the preparations for Pope John Paul II's upcoming visit to Chile.

GENERAL MATTHEI DISCUSSES SOCIALISM, POLITICAL PARTIES

PY171229 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0416 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Santiago, 15 Jan (EFE) -- Commander in Chief of the Air Force of Chile and Government Junta Member General Fernando Matthei said today that "socialism, although I do not share this idea, is legitimate."

Commenting on the Law on Political Parties, which was approved today by the Government Junta, the high-ranking officer said: "Socialism must define itself if it wants to be a political party."

According to Matthei, "We do not believe, and it is so stated, that socialism is opposed to the Constitution."

In the opinion of the Air Force commander in chief, "however, the Marxist-Leninist parties cannot be allowed, and this is clearly stated in the Constitution."

According to Article 8 of the Constitution, "any action of a person or group that is intended to spread doctrines that attack the family or promote violence: or that advocate a totalitarian concept based on the class struggle of society, the state, or the legal order is illegal and contrary to the Republic's institutional order."

By virtue of this article, some years ago the Constitutional Tribunal declared the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) unconstitutional. The MDP, includes communists, "hardline" socialists, and the Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR).

Reporters asked General Matthei about the system of presidential succession that establishes that in 1989 the Junta will submit to a plebiscite the name of a person to serve as president of the Republic for the 1987-89 period, as opposed to the opposition's proposal that the Constitution be reformed to allow direct presidential elections. Matthei replied: "I can only say that the Constitution must be enforced."

If the law that was approved today is also approved by the Constitutional Tribunal, it will be ready to be promulgated in March. This law establishes norms regarding the objectives and functions of political parties in 59 permanent articles and 3 transitory articles.

FURTHER ON FEBRES CORDERO KIDNAPPING, RELEASE

Movement Issues Communique

PA162030 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 1927 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Report by Mayra Clavijo]

[Text] The following communique has been issued at the Taura Air Force base:

The Soldiers of the Fatherland officers and troops [words indistinct] over the serious problems the country and people are suffering due to the wrongdoings and abuse of power repeatedly carried out by Engineer Leon Febres Cordero, considering that:

In Ecuador's history, minorities have captured political power and used it to benefit their own interests, remaining indifferent to national problems and unresponsive to the people's suffering. The government of Eng Leon Febres Cordero is a clear example of this line of behavior as it has enacted (?measures) that have greatly benefitted the small sector he represents to the detriment of the nation's tranquillity and the rights of the majority of Ecuadoreans.

The economic measures adopted in an authoritarian manner by Febres Cordero's government confirms this statement. These measures benefit a small group, [words indistinct] of our resources, unmercifully harming the poorest Ecuadoreans. The violence unleashed by the government has created a state of rising terror resulting from constant human rights violations. Also, the Constitution and laws have been repeatedly violated according to the whims and interests of the government. Corruption and immorality have led to the use of public funds for the enrichment of the highest officials closest to Febres Cordero.

This situation was reported by Lieutenant General Frank Vargas Pazzos during the historic days of March 1986 in an action that rescued the dignity of the armed institutions and honest citizens.

We proclaim that:

1. We respect constitutional order and democracy and therefore call on democratic institutions and their representatives to contribute to resolving the present situation through the dismissal of Eng Leon Febres Cordero.
2. We demand the immediate release of Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos, declaring the full implementation of the laws of amnesty and habeas corpus, which have been arbitrarily ignored by Febres Cordero.
3. We demand the dismissal of the commanders of the different branches of the Armed Forces, who have betrayed military honor by submitting to Febres Cordero's unconstitutional orders.
4. That the constitutional process be maintained so that elections scheduled for 1988 can be carried out normally, within a framework of liberty, and with the implementation of the constitutional guarantees that all Ecuadoreans desire.

5. We call on all the social and political forces truly and honestly committed to the search for better days for the fatherland to reach (?programmatic) agreement that will allow them to achieve the national objectives of development, social justice, true democracy, national sovereignty, and peace. This should be done through the formation of a grand popular front that will enforce the people's demands and, from positions of power, mobilize Ecuadoreans in defense of just national and popular demands, with a government truly committed to a political project for the people and the fatherland.

For peace and justice, Movement of Officers and Personnel of the Ecuadoran Air Force

President Orders Vargas Release

PY162304 Paris AFP in Spanish 2257 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Quito, Jan 16 (AFP) -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero this afternoon ordered the release of Air Force Commander General Frank Vargas Pazzos as demanded by the president's kidnappers, soldiers who are loyal to the general. This was announced by Vice President Blasco Pena Herrera, during a news conference held early this evening at Government House. The vice president added that the preestablished condition for the fulfillment of the presidential order is that the kidnappers release Febres Cordero.

Vargas Pazzos, who is under arrest in Quito for heading the thwarted military insurrection in March 1986, in which he called for the removal of Febres Cordero, will be taken to Guayaquil by plane.

Release Officially Approved

PA180351 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0256 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Quito, 17 Jan (REUTER) -- The government has announced tonight the approval of an amnesty of the rebellious General Frank Vargas Pazzos, who staged an unsuccessful coup d'etat in March. The Press Secretariat of the Presidency distributed copies of an OFFICIAL GAZETTE supplement issued yesterday containing the publication of the amnesty Congress granted Vargas in September. According to Ecuadoran legislation, the Congress' laws and bills must be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE to be valid.

Yesterday President Leon Febres Cordero was kidnapped for 12 hours until he agreed to release and approve the amnesty for Vargas Pazzos, who was under arrest at a local garrison. The amnesty for Vargas Pazzos also applies to the officials and soldiers who supported him in his insurgent movement 10 months ago, according to the law published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. [passage omitted]

Government Not To Discipline Captors

PA170122 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0030 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Statement read by Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero at the Taura Air Base -- live]

[Text] I guarantee that the government I head, once the commission that accompanies me...[corrects himself] that accompanied me to this base is released, will not take any disciplinary measure against the military men who took part in the [word indistinct].

This agreement also includes a guarantee of not initiating any penal action, either.

I am making this decision in honor of the peace that should reign in the country and to maintain the democratic regime.

Signature

[Word indistinct] Leon Febres Cordero.

Freedom of Information Ordered

PA170209 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0141 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Quito, 16 Jan (EFE) -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero, who was released by his military captors tonight before leaving Taura Air Base, ordered the absolute freedom of information.

Speaking on television, the president said that he was sending specific instructions to his ministers of the presidency and National Secretary of Information to permit a complete flow of information without censorship of any kind.

"I want the country and the whole world to know absolutely everything that is happening in Ecuador," he said.

The Secretary General of Public Information (SENDIP) today ordered international news agencies to submit its news dispatches to that office first, which in practice constitutes only a recommendation.

At 0130 GMT the president was headed toward downtown Guayaquil after being released and after having released retired Air Force General Frank Vargas Pazzos and pledging in a letter of guarantee not to take disciplinary actions against his captors.

Civilian Groups Support President

PA162123 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2047 GMT 16 Jan 87

["Communique" issued by National Secretariat of Public Information -- read by reporter Patricio Calle]

[Text] A few minutes ago Guayas Governor Jaime Nebot made the following statement: After contacting several governors and coast authorities, I can state that in several provinces civilian movements are being formed. These movements have as their goal the defense of the one and only constitutional president of Ecuador, Engineer Leon Febres Cordero.

Nebot stressed that the governors of Manabi and Los Rios, as well as the chief administrative officer of El Oro, have confirmed that civilian movements have been created to defend the constitutional system. Nebot said that these movements are without politics or ideologies; the only motive in these movements is pure patriotism, he added.

The civilian movements are being formed in several cities and, in particular, in the areas we mentioned.

In conclusion, Nebot asked the Ecuadoran people and especially the residents of Guayaquil to be alert and confident to prevent that certain traitors put an end to the greatest value the Ecuadoran people have: democracy and the full validity of the Constitution.

This is the end of the communique issued by the presidency a few minutes ago. The communique is signed by the National Secretariat of Public Information.

Febres Cordero News Conference

PA172155 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2040 GMT 17 Jan 87

[News conference by Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero with unidentified reporters in Guayaquil -- live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Febres Cordero] ...for the many expressions of support that we received -- I am not only referring to the chiefs of state -- by telephone and by telex.

[Reporter] Do the chiefs of state with whom you talked agree that your decision was the most correct?

[Febres Cordero] You should understand that when presidents talk among themselves, comments regarding correct or incorrect actions are not made. Comments are made regarding the fact that we must defend the democratic system. We have received their unconditional support in this regard.

[Reporter] Indiscipline does not break democracy, that is the indiscipline manifested by the group that...

[Febres Cordero, interrupting] Sir, please let's not mix political matters in this dialogue.

[Reporter] Did you talk to [Colombian] President Barco?

[Febres Cordero] No, not yet, I have not talked to President Barco. I have placed the call.

[Reporter] Mr President, how was [words indistinct] with General Frank Vargas upon his arrival at the base?

[Febres Cordero] I have not seen Gen Vargas. I did not see him, and he did not see me.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] what is your opinion about him?

[Febres Cordero] Sirs, amidst this serious problem we have experienced, personal appraisals are insignificant.

[Reporter] Can he remain in the country?

[Febres Cordero] He is free right now, sir. There are 9 million Ecuadoreans living and enjoying freedom here.

[Reporter] Will you end your term? Do you believe that you will complete your term?

[Febres Cordero] It is not a matter of believing or not. I will complete the term.

[Reporter] Congress is scheduled to meet on Tuesday. Does there seem to be some animosity?

[Febres Cordero] Listen, my dear friend, in politics one of the most typical things -- typical in Ecuadoran politics -- are doomsayers. However, I am still president. We were nothing yesterday to many opposition people, but I am sitting here in the Guayas governor's office as the constitutional president of Ecuador.

[Reporter] Have you spoken to your family?

[Febres Cordero] Yes, sir. You know that I have my wife and child at the newly opened Government House in Guayaquil. I was with them yesterday.

[Reporter] Some people recall the case of (Isaias Parquet), which you did not...

[Febres Cordero, interrupting] There you are again, asking political questions. I am not going to answer you.

[Question indistinct]

[Febres Cordero] I am in perfectly good health. Just a few blows.

[Reporter] What did you do when they grabbed you by the hand?

[Febres Cordero] I did not let them. I don't let anyone do that, even merely as a simple citizen, let alone as president of all Ecuadoreans.

[Reporter] What did you do or tell them?

[Febres Cordero] I can't remember. At the time I shouted to them: Let me go.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] there was a stain. Were you injured?

[Febres Cordero] Yes, I was slightly injured, but it is not serious.

[Reporter] Do you regret having pardoned your kidnappers?

[Febres Cordero] I insist: I did not negotiate my security. All you who do not want to read what is in the press probably think the reverse is true. I negotiated for the security of those who were with me.

[Reporter] But did you leave with your companions?

[Febres Cordero] I could have not left...

[Reporter, interrupting] How do you view the behavior of the Ecuadoran people?

[Febres Cordero] Just marvelous. The people reflect the feeling of this fatherland. The people were not defending Leon Febres Cordero, they were defending their constitutional president -- adversaries or followers -- except for a few [words indistinct]

[Reporter] When you arrived yesterday in Guayaquil, (?what did you feel)?

[Febres Cordero] Only politicians feel this. One of the few acts in political life that reaches one's heart deeply is when one sees the spontaneous behavior of the people. I can assure you there were a lot of people who voted for me and a lot who did not. They all shouted: Hurray to the Constitution, hurray for democracy. From the very moment I entered the port, and from there to the city -- which is a few kilometers away -- people were on both sides of the street. Guayaquil has always been my electoral backer -- there were all sorts of people, (levantistas) and (non-levantistas). There were Ecuadoreans who wanted a free democracy.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Why do they say that with your attitude peace was attained? Do you feel that this [words indistinct] is to gain peace? Did this induce you to think of the security of your companions?

[Febres Cordero] Yes, sir. If you once more read the document I signed [words indistinct] they say it was recorded on television, so the Ecuadoran people have had a chance to evaluate it on television, you will have seen there that I, as president of the Ecuadoreans, signed a decree ordering...[changes thought] I pay homage to the peace of the Ecuadoran people and the constitutional system.

[Reporter] Mr President, [words indistinct] there are several opinions [words indistinct].

[Febres Cordero] You have a right to your opinion. I think the answer is obvious. I was forced to safeguard [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Febres Cordero] What I sign... [changes thought] I have my honor, I keep my word.

[Reporter] Even if you were forced?

[Febres Cordero] Don't put those bad ideas in my head.

Issues Statement 19 Jan

PA192300 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 1815 GMT 19 Jan 87

["Statement" by Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero at the Presidential Palace in Quito -- live]

[Text] Newsmen, fellow countrymen: Ecuadoran democracy has been subjected to a harsh test. Last Friday, it suddenly had to face a dramatic dilemma. There was an attempt to murder the constitutional president of the Republic, the national defense minister, high-ranking Armed Forces chiefs, and the military men and civilians of the presidential retinue who had gone to the Taura Air Base to participate in a military ceremony that should have had great importance and symbolism. However, as soon as the president elected by the people arrived with his retinue, mutiny broke out.

A small group of rebels, whose faces were painted black, began shooting at random. The presidential security force, comprised mostly of Armed Forces members, were not carrying adequate weapons at the time -- precisely because they were inside a military building -- to repel the treacherous attack. However, in a heroic and courageous action of honor and in strict abidance with their duty, they protected the Ecuadoran president with their own bodies.

Two members of the presidential security force gave the highest sacrifice a human being can give: their own lives. Several others were seriously wounded in the midst of macabre circumstances. Two of them were shot and killed on the floor: There were even some abominable acts of plunder. All of them have joined the honorable list of Ecuadoran martyrs, of the most noble Ecuadorans, of those who are an inspiration for the entire fatherland, of those who guarantee the grandeur of our nation and its glorious and invincible destiny.

Last Friday's dramatic events, the hours during which we were held hostage under constant death threats, were extremely important for the life and future of Ecuadorans. They were decisive for maintaining and improving democracy! They were basic for the existence of the people, as far as our constitutional terms are concerned. They were basic in terms of respect for the demands of civilization, in a strong step toward development, prosperity, and justice.

In fact, they were planning to make martyrs of the country by destroying its institutional order that had been born from the sovereign will of the people; they were planning to push the Armed Forces into a confrontation, by destroying their basic principles, and setting a nefarious precedent of uncontrollable and primitive hatred. Thus, a significant situation was at stake: It was a matter of making the highest sacrifices to defend the tranquillity of my fellow countrymen, and to uphold the law and survival of freedom and democracy. All of this is my main duty, my most demanding duty, my continuous concern, my daily task at all hours, as president, as citizen, and as an Ecuadorean who dearly loves the fatherland.

Therefore, and in view of all the constitutional duties, and in view of my honor, and fully aware of the situation, I gave my word of honor. I am a man of honor, and I definitely fulfill my promises. I never negotiated any personal interests. I did not negotiate my own life. I proceeded in the defense of the high interests of Ecuador, of all Ecuadoreans, and of the members of my retinue, as can be definitely proven in the documents that I dictated and signed at 1653 and at 1855 on 16 January.

Those documents are public knowledge. Those documents do not contain a single word that seeks to protect my life. Those documents clearly state the undeniable decision of preventing bloodshed among Ecuadoreans, and it specifies the definite condition that the retinue accompanying me be released. This is the only, frank, and definite truth. It is the historical truth, hereby confirmed before the present and future generations by the irrevocable proof of the events and the documents. They all contain the truth.

I reached this decision following a previous analysis and deep meditation, following a permanent discussion with myself and my conscience. This decision was much harder than issuing an order to attack the rebels at the base. However, this decision was demanded by my duties, demanded by the supreme interests of the Republic, and demanded by the well-being of all Ecuadoreans.

I adopted this decision, I alone, under my sole responsibility while I was a hostage. Through a formidable, unique, and incredible paradox -- proof of the extraordinary extremes of political passion, sectarian hatred, and revanchist fanaticism -- the deputies, especially those of the opposition, proposed, and with supreme irony achieved, an extraordinary congressional meeting. This meeting was held to analyze the conduct of the hostage, who was the victim of an act rejected by the entire world, which expressed this rejection in an emotional, unanimous, and immediate manner.

In effect, while the opposition deputies tortured their imaginations searching for new ways to attack the Ecuadorean's constitutional president -- who was still a hostage of the insurgent politicians at Taura -- while the organizations for [word indistinct] constitutional defense and protection of human rights maintained an ominous silence, while parties and politicians who are enemies of the government took advantage of that tragic hour to spread their hatred and vengeance, noble heads of state and government, foreign ministers and official spokesmen, foreign democratic political parties lifted their voices on behalf of all humanity to the highest levels to condemn the murderous attack and proposed the defense of Ecuadoran democracy from a coup.

The same was done by very meritorious institutions of the fatherland, such as the Episcopal Conference, parties, organizations, labor unions -- whose democratic faith is not demonstrated by hypocritical speeches but by brave actions when the nation demands them -- and by the immense majority of Ecuadoreans who beyond legitimate doctrinal differences united in an indestructible embrace of civilization, dignity, and democracy. To the presidents, governments, and people of friendly nations, I express such deep and intense gratitude that it surpasses what words can express. This is also meant for the Ecuadoran patriotic institutions, determined and committed to their duties, for each and every Ecuadorean, who from their jobs and homes [words indistinct] of the Republic through telegrams and communiques expressed their anguish, stated their adherence and support, and defended democracy with the heroic firmness of the common citizens. To them I express my eternal recognition.

I specifically address the Ecuadoran Armed Forces, the chiefs, officers, and troops, who united, victims of a criminal ambush, demonstrated their calm braveness, their support of juridical order and democracy, and their enlightened perception of what each moment of the fatherland's history demands in honor of supreme values. I emphasize to the Armed Forces my indelible commitment not to allow acts of indiscipline or dishonorable dramas by small groups indifferent to feelings of dignity and the duty of discipline, which represent the very substance of the glorious Ecuadoran Armed Forces.

Women and men of Ecuador, I am not scared by dangers, problems, or storms. I know, in my supreme faith, that with God's help, the firmness of the Armed Forces, the unanimous support of the civilized international community, and the renewed support of Ecuadoreans, we will overcome all the tests and will take from them increased courage and our most unyielding decisions.

Today, I further intensify our [word indistinct] and commitments toward the fatherland. I have not and will not stop working for a single instant until I reach the very limit of my capabilities in building a free, democratic, prosperous, and just Ecuador, which is the most demanding of all my duties and my greatest hope for you and your children. Thank you. [applause]

Armed Forces Support President

PA200240 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 0156 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Armed Forces "communique" read by Defense Forces General Medardo Salazar -- live or recorded]

[Text] Communique of the Armed Forces to the nation:

In view of the serious events that took place at Taura Air Base on Friday, 16 January 1987, that seriously jeopardized the stability of the democratic system and the lives of the president and the members of his retinue, and killed valuable members of our armed institution, the Armed Forces feels it is its duty to notify the citizenry of the following:

1. We repudiate and condemn the actions contrary to the most basic principles of the military profession and discipline that were carried out by a very small group of military men who were manipulated by elements foreign to the institution and who offended the honor and dignity of the Armed Forces, a feeling that is shared by most of the citizens and the international community.
2. As an institution that is basic to the state and responsible for its actions, it fully understands its historical mission and ratifies its undeniable determination to fulfill this mission. With this purpose in mind, the Armed Forces strives now -- more than ever before -- for its institutional strengthening and improvement, and will prevent by all means possible that such a situation occur again.
3. The Armed Forces hereby ratifies its permanent respect to democratic institutions, the government legally constituted through the will of the majority of the citizens, and, therefore, to the president of the Republic. The Armed Forces states its definite decision to preserve the basic values of Ecuadoran nationality, order, and -- above all -- national dignity and honor.
4. We reject the attempt by those who seek to avail themselves of these nefarious events to question the actions of those who were offended instead of those who perpetrated and carried out that criminal action.

GUAYAQUIL RADIO STATION EQUIPMENT DESTROYED

PA162226 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2212 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Report by Guillermo Rodriguez of Bogota Radio Caracol]

[Excerpts] The latest information we have received here, at the Presidential Palace -- an apparently unofficial report even though it has been confirmed -- [as heard] is that the studios of the most important radio station in Guayaquil have been blown up by unidentified individuals. At this moment, firemen have been deployed to downtown Guayaquil. This is probably the most serious incident since the president of Ecuador was kidnapped several hours ago. [passage omitted]

We wish to advise the country that Radio CRE and Radio Atalaya in Guayaquil have also been attacked. We have no information regarding the attackers.

'Paramilitary Groups' Blamed

PA162351 Paris AFP in Spanish 2325 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 16 Jan (AFP) -- At 1620 this afternoon (2100 GMT) [as received], five armed individuals entered Radio CRE here and, using rifle butts, destroyed the consoles, transmission equipment, and other equipment of the Guayaquil radio station.

The five unidentified individuals shouted slogans in support of President Leon Febres Cordero, who was kidnapped this morning at Taura Air Force Base in Guayaquil by troops demanding the release of former Air Force commander, General Frank Vargas Pazzos. Vargas Pazzos was arrested in March 1986 when he rebelled against the government.

Since this morning the radio station had been continuously broadcasting information about the political ramifications of the kidnapping. It was carrying interviews with various political leaders, including some opposition leaders, during the afternoon.

The general manager of the radio station, Rafael Guerrero Valenzuela, said that the people who attacked the station are paramilitary groups linked to the Guayas governor.

The Ecuadorean Association of Radiobroadcasters (AER) issued a communique condemning what it described as "a serious attack against freedom of expression."

Radio CRE suspended broadcasting following the attack.

MINISTER DENOUNCES U.S. AMBASSADOR IN SPEECH

PY190041 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Jan 87 p 8, 9

[Excerpts] Sabino Augusto Montanaro, a vice president of the ANR [National Republican Association -- Colorado Party] [and interior minister] on 17 January lashed out harshly at U.S. Ambassador Clyde Taylor, inviting him "to get out" if he does not "feel at home" in our country, and to do so before the Colorado Party and its grassroots "declare him persona non grata." The politician also harshly lashed out at the "Ethical" faction [of the Colorado Party], calling it a group of "alcoholics" [a play on the Spanish words "etico," meaning ethical and "etilico," meaning ethyl]. He also made other remarks of a harshly political nature.

The high-ranking Colorado Party leader on 17 January chaired a meeting of Colorado Party precinct presidents from Cordillera Department, which was carried out in "solidarity with President Stroessner." The meeting was held at Los Pilinchos Villa, located in Piribebuy, which is owned by Deputy Francisco Solano Benitez, who acted as host. Thirteen of the 19 precinct presidents of Cordillera Department participated in the meeting. Prior to the general meeting, the precinct presidents held private talks with Minister Montanaro in which they explained topics pertaining to the problems of their towns and villages.

In his lengthy address to the Colorado party members participating in the meeting, including precinct presidents from Asuncion and other parts of the country, Montanaro said: "The freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and the freedom to write that journalists and politicians have access to are also our rights. We do not grant this freedom only so they insult and attack us every day in whatever way they choose, wherever they want, and how they want. We also have many truths to tell them regarding freedom of expression, and freedom of the press, about the fact that Paraguay with Stroessner and the Colorado Party lives in peace, works in peace, and progresses in peace, and that the party is going to continue governing with Stroessner at its head guaranteeing days of peace and happiness for the Paraguayan people."

He stated that "the dogs are baying loudly, as Sancho [Panza -- a character in the Spanish novel "Don Quijote"] said, but if the dogs are baying, it is a sign that we are in the saddle, because if the dogs were quiet we could not say this, and this is why the dogs will continue to bay." [passage omitted]

Montanaro also harshly criticized U.S. Ambassador Clyde Taylor saying that "we are not interested in any safe conduct [salvoconducto] or the good-conduct certificate that Taylor could give us, or for that matter, any other foreign ambassador. We are interested in the safe conduct that you, the precinct presidents and the Colorado people can grant. Taylor, let us make it clear: Clyde Taylor, a U.S. ambassador, can give his blessings to Radio Nanduti and to the Liberals of one of the seven groups into which the Liberal Party has divided, and you, the precinct presidents, can give us, the Colorado Party leadership, your safe conduct.

"And, it Taylor does not feel at home, or if he is not content, then he had better get out before the Colorado Party, precinct presidents, and the Colorado assault battalions declare him persona non grata. If they have the atomic bomb, or the hydrogen bomb, we have the Colorado bomb with which to face them." [passage omitted]

ULTIMA HORA EDITORIAL ON CLOSING OF RADIO NANDUTI

PY192048 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 17 Jan 87 p 14

[Editorial: "Radio Nanduti Unjust Silence"]

[Text] Radio Nanduti has been forced to suspend broadcasting for 90 days. As an unfair type of censorship unprecedented in the history of Paraguay, the continuous jamming has forced the station to take this extreme measure. This is a deplorable situation, because another communication medium has thus been silenced.

Our constitution consecrates and guarantees freedom of the press, which is a fundamental right in today's world. Nevertheless, this right was once again violated in the case of Radio Nanduti.

Continuous jamming has made it impossible for this radio station to broadcast normally. Despite repeated denunciations and the public knowledge of such an attack on freedom of expression, nothing has been done by the authorities to put an end to such censorship. That nothing has been done in this regard is the saddest aspect of this situation, which not only legitimizes impunity for a devious attack, but reveals the fact that the lack of official support or sympathy for a medium leaves it defenseless. This is unjust for the country, and does not favor its image. Obviously, the law is not being equally applied to everyone in this case.

Freedom of expression has indeed been violated by the continuous jamming of Radio Nanduti, and yet the appropriate authorities have not taken measures to end such a violation.

We have always maintained that freedom of the press is fundamentally important for the normal functioning of the institutions and the full enjoyment of constitutionally guaranteed civil rights. Reason is on our side when we defend this premise, because without the unrestricted exercise of freedom of the press, all other freedoms run the risk of being obliterated.

A constant bad example that arbitrariness stands above the law is set when press freedom is unjustifiably abridged. This is unacceptable in a state of law, more so because it subverts the principles of a republican system.

Civil coexistence is premised on freedom of opinion; and its proper exercise, with dignity and maturity, is essential for citizens to participate in the country's political affairs in defense of their legitimate interests.

There can be no public opinion without a free press; and without public opinion, democracy is merely a fantasy.

We believe that justice will be done if guarantees are henceforth granted for Radio Nanduti to resume broadcasting. Its forced muteness must not last, because it will just be a constant reminder of the limitations to freedom of the press in our country.

In the present circumstances, nothing can do more damage to the country's image than the continued silence of Radio Nanduti.

GARCIA'S GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS FEBRES' ABDUCTION

PY162209 Paris AFP in Spanish 2027 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 16 Jan (AFP) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia today condemned and repudiated the abduction of his Ecuadoran counterpart Leon Febres Cordero, and announced that he has made contact with the Colombian and Venezuelan chiefs of state to promote a continental movement of strong condemnation of this type of event.

An official statement issued in connection with the events which occurred at a military base near Guayaquil said that the abduction of Febres Cordero by a group of Ecuadoran Air Force parachuters is an act of insubordination.

As soon as the abduction was made known, Alan Garcia phoned his Colombian and Venezuelan counterparts, Virgilio Barco and Jaime Lusinchi, respectively, trying to promote a hemispheric reaction, condemning the action, on the grounds that it affects the entire continent. The statement added that Alan Garcia also phoned Ecuadoran Vice President Blasco Penaherrera, to whom he voiced his solidarity with the Ecuadoran Government and people and offered Peru's help.

The official document states: The Peruvian president and people condemn and repudiate this action, which is an attack against Latin American democracy, and demand the immediate, unconditional release of President Febres Cordero.

Peruvian Congress president, Senator Armando Villanueva del Campo, has also reacted to the abduction of Febres Cordero. Villanueva del Campo said that the kidnapping of the Ecuadoran president during a military ceremony is unprecedented. The constitutional government of that sister republic has received an unprecedented attack with the abduction of the president, said Villanueva del Campo, an old ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] leader.

He added that he phoned the Ecuadoran congressional leaders to express the Peruvian Congress' solidarity with the Ecuadoran constitutional government. The Peruvian Government and congress support constitutional governments; we have reiterated this position to the president of the Ecuadoran congress, said Villanueva del Campo.

SALINAS REJECTS U.S. TROOPS FOR ANTIDRUG FIGHT

PY170230 Paris AFP in Spanish 0133 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Lima, 16 Jan (AFP) -- Official sources said here today that the Peruvian Government would not agree to a U.S. proposal to send U.S. military troops to Peru to support the antidrug fight. In no way would we agree to such a proposal. We would reject it, in defense of our sovereignty, Interior Minister Abel Salinas said after meeting yesterday with Ann Wroblewski, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for International Narcotic Matters. Wroblewski is visiting Lima.

However, the minister said that the United States can cooperate in the technical, scientific, and logistic areas.

During a 2-hour interview at the Interior Ministry, we made it clear that we are not just trying to get money to continue with our fight against the scourge of drug trafficking, Salinas remarked. [passage omitted]

PRESUMED SHINING PATH TERRORISTS BLACK OUT LIMA

PY161811 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1515 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 16 Jan (EFE) -- The total blackout caused by sabotage and attacks last night in Lima, of which the city has not yet recovered, are evidence that the terrorist escalation which began at the end of 1986 continues.

Almost 11 hours after the blackout there are several districts of the Peruvian capital that continue without electricity. According to officials the electricity supply will be fully restored this afternoon.

Last night two factories were set on fire by presumed members of the "Shining Path" guerrilla group.

A woman died when the bomb she was carrying exploded, and it is believed that another terrorist was wounded when the bombs he was carrying exploded.

A Shining Path group raided the Rayon textile factory and forced the workers to leave before they set it on fire. Eight fire trucks were deployed to put out the fire, but the factory's store was destroyed.

Another textile factory, the Nylon Quimica Industrial, was attacked at km 10 on the Central Highway. Eight individuals raided it, forced the guards to leave and set it on fire, causing considerable damage.

The terrorist escalation has also affected six bank offices. Bombs were hurled at these offices causing damage but no casualties.

The Channel 5 television installations were also attacked, and four automobiles parked in the area were damaged.

The vehicle of Oscar Mejia, director of the National Penitentiary Institute [Instituto Nacional Penitenciario] was completely destroyed by a bomb that had been planted under it.

The terrorists' attempt to leave Lima in the dark was at first believed to have failed because, although some sectors were affected by a power outage, most of Lima did have electricity. The outage, however, finally became total and is still affecting the city today following the felling of high tension pylons with explosive devices.

Not only Lima was affected by the outage. Chiclayo, 623 km north of Lima, Trujillo and Chimbote, also in the north, and Ica and Huancayo, in the south, were also affected by the outage. Huancayo is located 415 km southeast of this capital.

This new terrorist attack follows a car bomb attack against the offices of the Electoral Court during which the member of the Tupec Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) was killed on 31 December. That same day another attack was perpetrated against the Lima district of Chorrillos.

On 14 December two policemen, who were guarding a hospital in Lima, were killed as was Lieutenant Colonel Pablo Rivera, head of the Army recruit office in Huancayo.

Members of the Tupac Amaru guerrillas have also perpetrated attacks against the U.S. enterprise Eastern [Airlines] and other targets.

The MRTA has set four public transport vehicles on fire in Lima. One of its members died in a shootout with the police and a policeman was also wounded.

President Alan Garcia's call for reflection last week to the terrorists does not seem to have been heeded.

TERRORISTS BLOCK ROAD TO PROTEST ANTIDRUG FORCE

PY170242 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0443 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 14 Jan (EFE) -- The newspaper LA REPUBLICA reported today that Shining Path terrorists and drug traffickers killed three people in the last few days in San Martin Department. It added that the incident occurred after terrorists and drug traffickers took over a sector of the jungle road between Aucayacu and Tocache.

According to the report, the two groups are blocking traffic in the area and on 6 January Shining Path terrorists beheaded three persons who refused to join the blockade. The report adds that another seven people are missing and that it is believed they have been killed. The three persons who were beheaded have been identified as Yoni Villaverde, Antonia Ramirez, and Miguel Garcia.

The police have requested reinforcements to confront the armed drug traffickers and terrorist gangs. According to LA REPUBLICA, these gangs are trying to impede the launching of the "Condor VI" [number as received] antidrug operation and the elimination of 180,000 hectares of coca in the Alto Huallaga River area.

Dozens of vehicles, that have been stoned and looted, are being detained between the towns of Aucayacu and Madre Mia.

In Tulumayo, the police had to repel an armed attack launched by 50 alleged Shining Path terrorists. The police were trying to clear timber and stones from the road when they were attacked. According to LA REPUBLICA, Shining Path terrorists have placed hundreds of red flags in the area.

Farmers Protest Operation

PY160243 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru Network in Spanish 2310 GMT 14 Jan 87

[By Paco Rivero from Tarapoto]

[Text] The blocking of the border highway has been extended to Alto Amazonas Province in Loreto Department. The Yurimaguas farmers have also blocked 132 kilometers of the highway, and are now preventing the transportation of fuel to San Martin.

Meanwhile, representatives of the corn-producing peasants are now holding a meeting at a barricade 15 km from Tarapoto. The representatives are discussing whether or not to send a delegation to negotiate with central government authorities in Lima. It was noticed in the conversations held this afternoon that a great majority is in favor of requesting that a committee of high-ranking officials come to Tarapoto to negotiate with the farmers.

Last night, truck drivers attempted to break through the blockade at Bolivia Bridge, 50 km from Tarapoto, but were repelled by the peasants who tried to set fire to their vehicles. More than 20 trucks, loaded with foodstuff bound for Tarapoto, were being prevented from entering the town.

Tocache Province, at the other extreme of Loreto Department, is also paralyzed, but not in an attempt to obtain better prices for corn and rice. The people there are protesting because it has been announced that the police will restart the 'Condor VII' operation to eradicate the coca plantations.

All activities have been paralyzed in the provincial capital, and the people, represented by urban vigilante groups, have given all foreigners, particularly the Colombians and Cubans who have spread terror in the Alto Guayaca region, 48 hours to leave the town.

Salinas Accuses Drug Traders

PY161501 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0415 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Interior Minister Abel Salinas has said that the peasants strike in Tarapoto was instigated by drug traffickers, and that the government will not yield to these criminals.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] [Question indistinct].

[Salinas] Honest people are not anxious, only those who have reason to fear justice and have broken the laws, because they know that they are engaged in illegal trafficking. This is why they are nervous, and they have good reason to be nervous because, as we have done before, we will adopt very hard and strict measures to fight all types of crimes. [end recording]

ALLEGED SUBVERSIVES KILL HUANUCO ARMY CAPTAIN

PY192104 Paris AFP in Spanish 1547 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 19 Jan (AFP) -- Police sources today reported in Lima that last night an Army captain was shot twice in the head by an alleged subversive commando in Aucayacu, Huanuco Department.

Captain Percy Riquellac, 35, chief of the Aucayacu Military base, Huanuco Department, 423 km east of Lima, was murdered by three armed men who may also be drug traffickers said the source.

COURT CONFIRMS MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

PY191958 Paris AFP in Spanish 1902 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 19 Jan (AFP) -- The National Electoral Court today confirmed the results of the municipal elections held in Lima on 9 November 1985. These results were questioned by members of the rightist and leftist opposition. The court confirmed Jorge del Castillo, candidate of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, APRA, as Lima's new mayor. The decision was announced this morning during a public session of the court's highest-ranking members. The court stated that the requests submitted separately by the Marxist Front, the United Left, and the rightist Popular Christian Party demanding the annulment of the elections are unfounded.

SANGUINETTI DEPLORES FEBRES CORDERO KIDNAPPING

PY162356 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2100 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (NA) -- Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti today repudiated the kidnapping of Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero who was taken hostage by a rebel military group. Sanguinetti also expressed his "complete solidarity" with the Ecuadoran president.

In a public statement issued in Buenos Aires by the Uruguayan Embassy, Sanguinetti states that he "deplores" the uprising. He says that "the uprising of some military sectors in the sister-nation of Ecuador reminds us of bitter experiences."

The statement adds that "the interruption of the constitutional order is never a good thing," especially at this time when "the gradual democratization of all countries in the region has been the prevailing trend in Latin America."

He stated that "as president of a constitutional government I hereby express my unconditional support for the pluralist democratic form of government which has been traditionally upheld by the Uruguayan people and I wish to express my complete solidarity with President Leon Febres Cordero and demand that his kidnappers immediately release him."

LUSINCHI OFFERS ASYLUM FOR ECUADOR'S VARGAS

PY172147 Paris AFP in Spanish 2121 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Caracas, 17 Jan (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Simon Albero Consalvi confirmed today that President Jaime Lusinchi has offered asylum to Ecuadoran rebel General Frank Vargas Pazzos, in an attempt to find a solution for the crisis that broke out with the kidnapping of President Leon Febres Cordero.

Lusinchi talked last night personally with the minister of the Presidency of Ecuador until past midnight, trying to translate the concern of Venezuela into a concrete act of cooperation, Consalvi reported.

He further explained that Ecuador had raised the idea that the asylum of General Vargas Pazzos could be a solution and that it would be greatly appreciated if Venezuela could make such an offer. President Lusinchi agreed to do so. General Vargas Pazzos has studied and lived in Venezuela.

Consalvi left today for Panama to meet with his colleagues from the Contadora Group and Contadora Support Group. [passage omitted]

CONSALVI DENIES CONTADORA FAVORS NICARAGUA

PA181523 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1702 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Caracas, 17 Jan (EFE) -- Analyzing the Latin American foreign ministers' meeting to begin tomorrow in Panama, Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi has denied that the Contadora Group favors Nicaragua.

Consalvi rejected the charges made by some sectors saying that the Contadora Group (formed by Venezuela, Panama, Colombia, and Mexico) favors Nicaragua.

Consalvi's remarks, released today, refer to the summit of the foreign ministers of the Contadora and the Support Group (formed by Peru, Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay), scheduled to meet tomorrow in Panama with the UN and OAS secretaries general, to begin a tour through the Central American countries.

Consalvi reiterated that the fundamental goal of Contadora since its creation has been to achieve peace in Central America, and that "it cannot be interpreted that peace can be the interest of just one country."

The foreign minister emphasized the importance of the Panama political summit, which basically shows the goodwill of international organizations like the United Nations and the OAS, to find a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis.

Consalvi noted that the result of the meetings and the possible measures and conclusions after the tour through Central America will be made by the foreign ministers and not by the UN or OAS secretaries general.

The Social Democratic politician said he perceived a "positive evaluation" of the Contadora efforts by the U.S. during the meeting between Philip Habib, political envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and President Jaime Lusinchi.

According to Consalvi, the North Americans still believe that so far there is no other way to negotiate peace in Central America than through Contadora.

It is probable that the Central American foreign ministers will present new ideas for the consideration of the Contadora and the Support Groups, Consalvi said. He pointed out, however, that the main bulk of the negotiation activity falls to the foreign ministers of Panama, Venezuela, Mexico, and Colombia.

Consalvi said that at the Latin American summit "much care must be taken to establish the difference between what the eight ministers can do and what the secretaries general of the United Nations and the OAS can do."

Consalvi declined to comment on a statement by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega calling Philip Habib's tour "gloomy." Consalvi reiterated the policy of not commenting or passing judgement on statements by Central American representatives because otherwise we would cease "to be impartial agents, a characteristic of people engaged in goodwill missions such as this one."

ALLEGED DRUG TRAFFICKER, MURDERER ARRESTED

PA132131 Paris AFP in Spanish 1753 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jan (AFP) -- Jose Duarte Acero, a Colombian-Venezuelan [as received] drug trafficker, accused of murdering [words indistinct] U.S. narcotics agents, was arrested by Venezuelan police in Urena, a town near the Colombian border, it was reported today.

Police Chief Leonel Avila, a Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] inspector, said that Duarte is a "personality in the drug world" and that at the time of his arrest, he was carrying 100 grams of cocaine.

The police inspector said that in 1983, the Colombian-born drug trafficker, son of a Venezuelan man and a Colombian woman, killed a U.S. policeman.

The PTJ turned Duarte over to a court in Urena.

There were no reports of any immediate U.S. efforts to extradite him.

OIL EXPORTS REDUCED BY 30,000 BARRELS PER DAY

FL162130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2101 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Government announced today it will again cut its export oil production by 30,000 barrels a day to contribute to the stability of the world oil market.

This places oil exports at 1.32 million barrels a day after a 10 percent reduction was implemented last August.

The announcement was made during a press conference granted by the energy secretaries of Mexico and Venezuela, Alfredo del Mazo and Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, respectively. Mexican Energy Deputy Secretary Jose Luis Alcudia read a communique including three additional measures by which Mexico seeks to contribute to the reorganization of the oil market and achieve the increase of crude oil prices.

EL DIA SAYS ABRAMS, HABIB HINDER AREA PEACE

PA161759 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 14 Jan 87 p 10

[Text] Two U.S. advance men, Elliott Abrams and Philip Habib -- assistant secretary of state for American Affairs and roving ambassador for Latin America, respectively -- are meeting separately with the member-governments of the Support Group and governments of some Central American countries. It has been reported, although not fully confirmed yet, that they may also meet with some of the Contadora Group governments.

Habib has already visited Buenos Aires and is now in San Jose, Costa Rica. Abrams is scheduled to visit Brasilia within the next few hours, and it is reported that he may make additional brief visits. The reason for these trips is to establish direct contact with the majority of the members of the Contadora and Support Groups, who along with the secretaries general of the United Nations and OAS will visit Central American within the next few days to reactivate the dialogue to renew hopes of peacefully resolving the regional conflict.

It is quite obvious from the latest statements by the U.S. State Department that the main goal of the two officials in question is to sabotage any possible dialogue.

In conjunction with the Costa Rican and Honduran Governments, the U.S. officials are trying to make the combined missions of the peace-making groups and the regional and worldwide organizations fail. At the same time, the two officials are using several voices to create the appearance that it is necessary to make certain demands on Nicaragua that will make the country appear to reject peace. The demands would be similar to those raised by the U.S. Government at the Manzanillo meetings that were flatly rejected by the Sandinist Government.

The U.S. State Department is also deeply concerned that the possibility has re-emerged that Nicaragua may offer to demilitarize its borders with Honduras and Costa Rica up to a distance of 13 km, and that some of the Southern Cone countries that are members of the Support Group may agree to send their own guards to those regions. If Southern Cone personnel are established there, they would receive technical advice from Canada -- according to reports -- and economic support from some EEC countries.

It is easy to understand that this would greatly hinder the possibilities of escalating the aggression against Nicaragua by the United States, which maintains counterrevolutionary settlements in Costa Rica and Honduras to wage the war. Abrams' and Habib's race is really against time, because the very announcement of a measure of that nature, even before implementation, would ruin any plan for a large-scale aggression.

SECRETARY REVIEWS COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION

PA180244 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Report by Magdalena Garcia de Leon]

[Text] Daniel Diaz Diaz, secretary of communications and transport, has released the program to be carried out by his secretariat in 1987.

During a news conference, Diaz Diaz stated that this year will be one of great activity in the modernization and construction of infrastructure, in both communications and transportation. He added that this year the fruits of what has been done since 1982 will be harvested. He emphasized that the priorities will be to expand and improve the quality of services given by the secretariat.

Concerning the Morelos satellite, Diaz Diaz said that it will be functioning at 90 percent of capacity in 1988.

[Begin Diaz Diaz recording] In 1987, 56 ground stations will begin to operate, which will widen the coverage of the system in the national territory. As you know, the Morelos system has been serving a varied number of consumers in telephone, television -- both state and private -- and data transmission services. [end recording]

Diaz Diaz also revealed that the national telegraph and post offices will be working as decentralized organizations and this will allow the services to be more dynamic. Concerning telephones, Diaz Diaz pointed out that great efforts will be made to improve the quality of the service. He also said that 600,000 new telephones will be installed, bringing the number of functioning telephones to over 8 million.

On transportation, he reported that the railroads will continue to be modernized and an improvement of their financial situation will be sought. He said that by the second half of this year, the double electric railway between Mexico and Queretaro will begin operations. He announced that work has begun to electrify all railways with heavy cargo traffic and that an attempt will be made to increase passenger transportation.

Concerning ports, the communications secretary announced that Puerto Progreso on the Yucatan Peninsula will be greatly developed to make it adequate for the region's industrialization and to provide access for cruise vessels. The port of Manzanillo will be also modernized, as well as the busiest ports, in order to facilitate exportation of Mexican products.

On airports, he said that modernization projects under way will continue and that the Colima airport will be finished. He added that two more airports will be constructed, one in El Bajio and the other one in (Guatulco).

As far as roads are concerned, he said that 5,000 km of new roads will be constructed and 5,000 km will be modernized.

Diaz Diaz assessed the achievements of the administration's 4 years.

[Begin Diaz Diaz recording] The sector fulfilled its goals. During President de La Madrid's 4 years in office, achievements in transport and communications -- some of which I have already mentioned in these talks with you -- have been truly impressive. At least, they have been very important for Mexican growth. Although this period of Mexico's history has been one of particular economic difficulty, the sector of communications and transport has made great progress, great achievements. This is no exception. In other sectors of the country's economy, there have also been results that speak well of Mexico's capacity to face up to the situation it is presently experiencing. They speak of the capacity of our Mexican institutions to adapt to critical and difficult situations, and -- I would say with well-justified optimism -- to overcome these critical situations we must all face because we have ahead of us a future as a country, a future as a society. We must, of course, forge this future with daily work, but it is not in any doubt. [end recording]

Finally, Diaz Diaz reported that the possible sale of some Aeromexico shares is being studied, as well as the possibility of building a new runway at Mexico City's international airport.

EL SALVADORFMLN ORDERS TRANSPORTATION STOPPAGE 21 JAN

PA191409 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Attention, Radio Venceremos will now air an important announcement from the FMLN General Command. The FMLN General Command orders a nationwide transportation stoppage effective the early hours of Wednesday, 21 January. We repeat: The FMLN General Command orders a nationwide transportation stoppage effective the early hours of Wednesday, 21 January. This stoppage falls within the previously established plans of the current military campaign being carried out by our vanguard throughout El Salvador. This new action of revolutionary combat and force will commemorate the 22 January 1932 popular insurrection and the 22 January 1980 establishment of the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses, union of the popular organizations sealed with the blood spilled in the streets of San Salvador on that same date. This stoppage will also express our rejection of the economic package swindles and the use of the electoral registry to locate youths to conscript them, as the Armed Forces High Command is now doing.

The stoppage is part of the plans of our "Heroic January, Farabundo Lives" military campaign. Therefore, the coincidence of dates with the so-called lockout is accidental. It is purely by chance that the dates coincide. We call on all our military units throughout the national territory to strictly enforce this stoppage in the main and secondary roads of the country's 14 departments. We call on all the population and national and foreign transporters to maintain the same discipline shown in the previous stoppage so as to prevent any dangerous situation as a result of the actions that we will carry out against any development of the puppet Army on the country's roads. Through this means, we will announce the date when we will end this transportation stoppage. As our people know, these stoppages form part of our actions and our advances toward the definite triumph of the democratic and revolutionary project embodied by the FMLN-FDR in the face of the oligarchy and the sold-out Christian Democracy's alternatives against the people.

NICARAGUAQUANT TAI RECEIVES 30-YEAR PRISON TERM

PA142347 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Report by Marta Alicia Amador]

[Text] Guillermo Quant Tai, counterrevolutionary and former CIA agent, was sentenced today to 30 years in prison by the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunal. Quant Tai's trial began in September 1986. The tribunal also ordered the confiscation of all his property in accordance with Article 5, Decree 1074. This decree orders the confiscation of property purchased (?in the past) 5 years. After hearing the sentence, Quant Tai presented an appeal because he does not agree with the sentence.

HABIB TOUR REPORTEDLY PART OF U.S. 'STRATEGY'

PA191622 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Commentary by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] As often happens with some U.S. decisions when things are not going according to its plans, Philip Habib, President Ronald Reagan's special envoy to Central America, unexpectedly suspended his scheduled visit to Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

As will be recalled, the U.S. diplomat had already visited some Latin American countries belonging to the Contadora and Support Groups in a provocative tour made a few days before the holding of the peace groups' meeting to analyze vital issues of the Central American conflict. As on other occasions, the United States felt it was the right moment to send its diplomats to strife-torn regions to try to exert pressure and turn the situation in its favor.

Coinciding with the scandal affecting the White House, the U.S. diplomats have been sounding out the opinions of rulers and exerting pressures. Central America is the region assigned to Habib who was carrying in his briefcase an alleged Costa Rican peace plan for the region. According to what was announced in Washington days before Habib's trip, the U.S. diplomatic strategy consists of exerting pressure on the Nicaraguan Government so that it will negotiate with the counterrevolutionaries, and is designed to demonstrate, in the face of the possible failure to achieve that goal, that the only alternative left is the military option.

Habib made statements in this regard precisely on Wednesday in Brazil where he warned that if no negotiated solution is soon found in Central America, there will be a generalized confrontation in the area. During his entire tour, Philip Habib has constantly tried to blame Nicaragua -- the attacked country -- for the (?delays) in a negotiated solution [words indistinct].

AZCONA STATEMENTS ON PEACE SEARCH 'UNACCEPTABLE'

PA190330 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jan 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The recent proposals made by the Nicaraguan president to the Honduran Government aimed at reducing tensions between the two countries and promoting peace in the region have put President Jose Azcona Hoyo in a tight corner. Azcona struggles between strong political contradictions and internal pressure against his administration.

It can be said that since the end of 1985 and throughout 1986, reports, demands, and criticism against the presence of thousands of former Somozist guards in Honduras have been heard. With the support of the United States, those former Somozist guards have turned Honduras into their main base of operations against Nicaragua.

Needless to say, that undesirable presence is the main cause of tensions between the two countries. Tensions originate in the illegal policy of force of the U.S. Administration, which is obsessed with destroying the Sandinist revolution.

In his letter, President Daniel Ortega mentioned the increasing rejection provoked by the counterrevolutionaries' presence and activities among the Honduran population, legislators, and politicians in general.

Aiming to revitalize the peace efforts of the Contadora and Support Groups, and in a new demonstration of its intentions to solve the conflict, the Nicaraguan Government expressed its willingness to receive -- with all legal guarantees -- Nicaraguan citizens involved in counterrevolutionary activities who willingly resort to the amnesty law. The proposals, which include payment by Nicaragua of the expenses in the transferal of the emigrants, as well as facilities to develop their future lives, only received ambiguities and threats as a replies.

In the first few paragraphs of his note, Honduran President Azcona pointed out that his government and most of the Honduran people vehemently wish to keep themselves apart from the violence that exists in some Central American countries, because it is threatening to involve other countries.

Azcona's incongruity is simply amazing because he is the ruler of a country in which joint military maneuvers with the U.S. Army are taking place only 20 km away from the Nicaraguan border.

The cooperation of the Honduran Government with the aggression against Central America is more than clear; therefore, the statements made by President Azcona further on in his letter are unacceptable. Azcona says that he wants to reaffirm his commitment to the Contadora and Support Groups in the search for a peaceful solution to the area's problems.

Displaying an evidently contradictory position, Azcona adds that if the Sandinist government consolidates, Honduras will be forced to strengthen its military presence in the border area to prevent alleged infiltrations from Nicaragua.

Honduran President Azcona continues to be deaf to the protestations made by various sectors demanding the expulsion of the former Somozists and the end of the aggression against Nicaragua.

If pressures continue, President Azcona could be at the edge of a crisis that appears to be very similar to the old saying about being between a rock and a hard place.

ARIAS' NEUTRALITY SEEN AS 'PREELECTORAL PROJECT'

PA192133 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jan 87

["Our America" commentary read by Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] We will support any initiative leading to a peaceful solution of the Central American conflict. When we talk about neutrality, we are sincere.

We really want to be neutral. In addition, we will not tolerate nor will we be complaisant toward the enemies of the Nicaraguan Government who abuse our neutrality.

These apparently firm and conclusive concepts were expressed by Oscar Arias approximately 1 year ago, a few months before he assumed the Costa Rican Presidency. Shortly after he took office, Oscar Arias began to feel the first gusts of U.S. pressure, which have now evolved into a real tempest that threatens to bring down once and for all the highly trumpeted Costa Rican political neutrality. One does not have to be too shrewd to grasp that when Arias said that he would not be too complaisant with the enemies of the Nicaraguan Government, he was specifically referring to the United States, which persistently foments the establishment of anti-Nicaraguan bands in Costa Rican territory. However, neutrality and good intentions are not enough if they are not accompanied by firmness, determination, and specific measures. Consequently, there have been groups of former Somozists in Costa Rica for quite some time, and although they are not as numerous as in Honduras, their actions have the same objective: destabilizing Nicaragua.

The U.S. Government, which permanently controls the counterrevolutionary groups through its advisers, also reinforced its military presence in Costa Rica. During the first months of 1986, under the false pretext of fighting drug trafficking, it secured naval bases in several ports in that country.

A little less than 1 month ago, following the resignation of U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica Lewis Tambs, the Yankee diplomatic mission in that Central American nation quickly denied reports published in THE WASHINGTON POST regarding pressures exerted on the San Jose Government to allow the former Somozists to use an airport near the Nicaraguan border. It is good to remember that when Tambs took charge of the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica and during the time he headed the U.S. mission, it was a well-known secret that he periodically met with the anti-Nicaraguan leaders. Lewis Tambs replaced Curtin Winsor in that post. Political observers recall that Tambs was no different from Winsor, because he would enter the Government House as easily as he entered the Foreign Ministry or other key ministries, such as the Public Defense Ministry. When Ambassador Tambs resigned, it was insistently said in San Jose that he had actively participated in the distribution of funds to the Nicaraguan contras obtained from the illegal sale of weapons to Iran, and that he could not remain in Costa Rica because that would be admitting that Washington torpedoes the neutrality proclaimed by Arias' government.

In any event, the permanence of counterrevolutionary forces and the U.S. pressures recently revitalized through the support to a false peace plan for the region prepared by the Costa Rican president show that the current government's neutrality was only a preelectoral project. As if this were not enough, the arrival of more U.S. troops in Costa Rica thoroughly confirms this.

EVENT MARKS COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHILE ANNIVERSARY

FL170218 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] The political event marking the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Chile is under way at this time in Havana with Politburo Member Jorge Risquet in attendance.

Mireya Baltra, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Chile, was speaking at the time this newscast was being prepared.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER CONCLUDES VISIT

FL161413 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1303 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Kharilaos Florakis, secretary general of the Greek Communist Party, last night departed for his country after completing a visit to Cuba at the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Rene Rodriguez Cruz, member of the party Central Committee and president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, accompanied Florakis to the airport.

Florakis arrived in Cuba on 9 January. During his visit, Florakis was received by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and toured several areas of economic and social interest.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH LAO OFFICIAL

FL170159 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has met with Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy minister of foreign affairs. During the talks, which took place in a fraternal and friendly atmosphere, they discussed matters related to current international politics, especially of Asia and Central America. Also mutual interest affairs of the Nonaligned Movement and bilateral relations between Cuba and Laos were noted.

Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Giraldo Mazola was also present at the meeting.

'ECUMENICAL COUNCIL' OFFICIAL ON MARX, CHRISTIANS

PA160247 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Interview with Dr (Adolfo Ham), president of the Cuban Ecumenical Council (Consejo Ecumenico de Cuba) and the Cuban Antiapartheid Committee (Comite Cubano Antiapartheid), by Julio Dominguez; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Dominguez] Do Christians and Marxists agree on certain issues, which would permit, for example, cooperation in building a new world? If so, what are those issues? I would also like to know whether this kind of cooperation is permissible, theologically speaking.

[[Ham]] All people of goodwill must be included here. The problems we are dealing with are of such a scope that everyone's cooperation is required. Actually, the points of agreement and convergence between Christians and Marxists are more numerous than the philosophical disagreements between the two groups. For instance, I think our commitment to justice and our willingness to struggle for a new society and a new world in which human dignity can be fully recognized are issues on which we agree.

I think one of the results of the experience of the peoples' struggle, particularly in Latin America, is precisely that today there is no difference between Communists and Christians regarding the struggle for revolution in Latin America. The list of martyrs does not discriminate between those who belong to the party and those who belong to the Church. What we see on this list are the names of those who have given their lives for their fellow man and the construction of a new society.

[Dominguez] We are familiar with your activities as a missionary and a Christian statesman, as well as your close relationship with the main body of Cuban believers. What do they think about our social progress and the new economic measures promulgated by the revolution.

[Ham] I think one of the most important characteristics both of our revolutionary process and our top leader is precisely that ours is a revolution that is always in motion. As with every process, it will have difficult moments, during which it grows. I think that as Christians, church members, and Cubans, we must try to understand the reasons for these measures taken by our government and party. We should try to make a more decisive contribution so that the struggle of our people to consolidate a revolutionary society for the benefit and total development of all can continue. We wish the party and our government success in all the plans outlined for this new year.

REPORTAGE ON NATIONAL PLANNING FRONT MEETING

Committees Review Topics

FL162221 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] The morning session of the national planning front [frente nacional de proyectos] has ended after thoroughly analyzing the measures proposed to act on the problems raised by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

Over 400 delegates participating in the event met in five working committees to discuss matters regarding quality, technical and economic efficiency, savings, and scientific-technical improvements, among others. It was proposed by committee number five, which discussed investment activities, that investment organs should encourage the greatest participation of planning enterprises in conducting studies and mid and long-term development plans.

This afternoon, the national meeting of the planning front will hold a plenary meeting to discuss and approve the proposals discussed by the committees.

Castro Surveys Economic Plans

FL171304 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has attended the national meeting of the planning front [reunion nacional del frente de proyectos] in the Palace of Conventions where we held an extensive dialogue of several hours with the delegates and guests attending the meeting.

The meeting was the conclusion to the assembly process carried out by the 27 enterprises specializing in investment programs throughout the country. In the review, more than 1,000 statements and suggestions were made on technical-economic efficiency and general aspects related to the control and quality of this important sphere.

During one of his speeches, Fidel said that we should not think the current process of rectifying errors will impede new investments. On the contrary, it will allow us to save billions of pesos by improving economic efficiency and use of the work day.

Our highest leader said the new perspective will allow us to confront high-priority projects, especially in the water sector and the hospital network. He also referred to the need to guarantee better utilization of professionals in these areas.

Fidel stressed that excess specialization prevents the correct formation of professionals and, because of this, it would be necessary to revise the programs of universities and higher-education centers.

Taking into account the current importance of computerization, he said it is indispensable to deepen the study of that novelty to increase the productivity and efficiency of new projects.

The head of the Cuban revolution reflected on how linking [vinculacion] influences the productivity of the intellectual worker and he stressed that things have to be done with revolutionary awareness, which is the true method of creating socialism.

Castro Addresses Delegates

FL180031 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Announcer-read report over video followed by video showing Castro standing at dais speaking to delegates]

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held a dialogue with the delegates to the national meeting of the planning front, which has been meeting in the Palace of Conventions since yesterday.

[Castro] We need enterprise administrators and directors who know what their obligations are and know that whenever there is a contradiction it should be solved in favor of the enterprise, otherwise that means the enterprise is useless. They all should be substituted, dissolved, and carry out this budgetary activity [as heard]. My attention was called to what Comrade Cabrera said [no further identification provided] about no one being at the work site because the enterprise does not make money.

I will admit some of these mechanisms are necessary to measure efficiency but we have to have a philosophy of how to manage these mechanism.

If we have an enterprise, it is preferable to have man there who can say, my enterprise is not profitable. This has happened this year. Why? Because he doesn't want to do a lot of useless investigations. And [he can say] I have made so many (?holes) and they were of good quality because I sent so many cadres to control all our projects. And he can tell them, fix it; throw me out if you like, but I was concerned about that. Or [he can say] the other day I had extra people and I sent them to do this, but he does not send them because it does not make money.

I say that we cannot allow these diabolical mechanisms to govern us. We have to govern them, otherwise that administrator is like a capitalist administrator, a capitalist director. [He may think] if I can make more doing this, it does not matter to the country, but it does matter to the country

[Announcer] I think the fundamental topic of this meeting should be: How are we going to solve these problems? How are we going to confront them? Here are the opinions of an investor and a planner on the now very-much discussed investment process. [camera shows video interviews with planner and investor]

[Planner] In many cases an investor -- I said he was rich, right? That is the word I used the other day -- an investor is rich because in many cases they have a large amount of money and still are not concerned about calculating how much things cost, how much things will cost them. When we did a project for them, they asked us. They said you have to lower it for me. It's too expensive. I have to work within a financial framework. I only have so much money.

[Investor] The contradictions can be solved from a rational point of view which is integrity of the investment process.

[Planner] We also make outrageous errors. I don't mean to imply we're the good guys but we don't have that contradiction. That contradiction does not exist. The investor should be telling us that we should lower, lower [repeats herself], lower the cost. That is the way it should be. He should be telling us each time that the project should be less expensive, more economical.

[Investor] The investor who says he does not want a more economical project is simply not fulfilling his role. The investor's purpose is to make the most economic investment possible and meet the established goal.

[Planner] For example, a project's 1 million peso budget is sometimes spent before the project is finished. But, nevertheless, no one knows where that 1 million pesos was spent, and when that 1 million is spent, they have to ask for another million because that project has not been finished.

[Investor] And more money is spent than necessary. It is an exception when less money is spent. Many times, the cadres decide on all matters and then the investor, the man, is the deciding factor.

[Castro] That has to have influenced the decline of quality in construction. It has to have decided that a man was not necessary there on the work site. It is possible that it influenced the fact that many cadres do not have technical knowledge. That is why I have been stating that engineers and architects go to the work site or direct the work force or control the quality of the work done there.

An honorable man, sirs, cannot act this way. [Castro is seen pacing] He is not a communist. The man we have heading the enterprise as director is not a revolutionary when these things happen. What makes him a revolutionary? He has negatively affected the economy and nevertheless, he does it because it is convenient for the enterprise, because he wants to save himself a headache, or for whatever reason. If those men had acted in another form, it is possible we may have discovered some of these problems, some of these mechanisms earlier. They are a little contradictory, paradoxical, [word indistinct].

No matter how perfect the mechanisms are that we discover, we always need a man there in front, administering that mechanism.

[Announcer] During one of the breaks, the commander in chief toured the exhibit presented by the national planning front in one of the halls of the Palace of Conventions. During his tour, Fidel had lively dialogues with the exhibitors.

[Castro] I would like to ask a question. What consideration has been made to the aesthetic aspect, above all in architecture? Not one word can be seen on this topic. It seems to be a prohibited word, a bourgeois word, something wasteful. [several people try to speak at the same time] I am concerned that in 20 years we will have one of the most boring and ugly cities in the world.

Even the capitalists speak Spanish. In the last century they built some buildings with aesthetic value. That is part of a city's quality of life, the prestige of a city, the beauty of a city. Look at how much old Havana is valued at now. How many thousands of people come and visit there? Analyze it.

The capitalists, colonialists, and neocolonialists in Cuba made some beautiful buildings. Clearly, mechanization did not exist then. It was another thing. The socialist had to find a [word indistinct] in the production of homes to produce several types of homes. But I am concerned that we are now forgetting the aesthetic part in such a way that within 20 or 30 years the new generations will say we were the most ignorant, uncultured, and most shoddy people that lived in this country during its history. I am concerned.

We have an obligation. We should dedicate part of our efforts to this. It is not all net result, net gain, net economy. We can have a good economy and not have anyone who wants to live in this city. There are square buildings that are boxes, all the same, rah, rah.

In addition to that, there is no paint. [laughter] (?And you will note) holes, marks, everything when you pass through the Calzada del 10 de Octubre and all those other locations we pass through and it makes us a little sad to see it unpainted.

We know how much paint costs, but now we have to dedicate ourselves to other things. We are not going to stop the introduction of machinery, computers, or medical equipment to paint the city. Someday we will have to solve this industrially, apart from the construction problem. It is not the paint. It is incredible the problem we have in this country with paint. In the past, it is possible the country lived only to paint itself. They did not have paint. That is part of the country's misery. We prefer those sadly disfiguring walls than the misery of the people, without shoes, doctors, medicine.

But the planners have to be concerned about this. Industry does not have to be as worried about this even though they will always have to be aware of something. I refer to buildings now.

REPORTAGE ON CASTRO REMARKS AT CLAE ASSEMBLY

Eyes Education, Defense

FL160300 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Announcer--read report followed by video of young people assembled, young man exchanging views with Castro]

[Text] [Announcer] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party's Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held a wide-ranging and fraternal meeting with delegates and guests at the Eighth Latin American Congress of Students [CLAE]. Several topics were discussed during the more than 3 hours of dialogue.

[Unidentified speaker] There are two things that interest me in the Cuban process. I am a student leader. This is my first visit to Cuba. Besides, my ideological frame of reference is not the same as the one building the revolution here. Therefore, I am curious about some aspects which I hope to tell you briefly. The first thing that impresses me is the exceptional quality of the educational process at all levels and the access of all sectors to (?free) medical care. In particular, because they are services that in the short term do not produce income or foreign exchange for the state that provides them.

[Castro] It is quite economical for the level it is performed at, because you must take into account that a person here is not the same as a peso in New York, or a dollar in New York. The dollar in New York gives you a single bus trip. A peso in Cuba used to give you 20, although we recently had no alternative but to increase the fare. Now it's 10 trips. [laughter]

[Speaker] I understand. Thank you...

[Castro, interrupting] That is, many times...[changes thought] what I want to tell you is that what we do here with a peso, in New York, in the United States, it costs 7 or 8 pesos to do. I believe that with a little money 600,000 or 700,000 children's lives, with a bit of attention to health, with just a little of that money that is wasted on many things, that ends up in the United States, is stolen, or is spent in luxury items -- with that money alone, hundreds of thousands of children's lives can be saved.

Education here, too...[changes thought] well, we are critical with all that. In regard to education, you, many of you were able to see that in the meeting with the students. But you can see the enormous strides we have made in health services, which in the United States...[corrects himself] in education, which in the United States would cost 6 or 7 billion.

[Speaker] In addition, I was interested in knowing, given the geopolitical context of Cuba, how much you spend in weapons. This as a way of comparison.

[Castro] The expense derives from all the people's efforts toward combative readiness, from the training of hundreds of thousands of men in the regular forces, and from the training of millions of men and women organized and prepared to defend the country. Let us say that we have made minor arms expenditures. We have purchased rifles. We needed so many that a single country could not have supplied them with the speed that we needed them. I assure you that we have created conditions that make it impossible for imperialism to occupy the country. It could invade the country, it could occupy our territory for a time, but it can't stay here. Because it would have to fight millions of men and women, everyone armed. Against millions of mines, against millions of hand grenades, against millions of explosive devices in a war -- it's not that we are going to take Washington in a war or that we are going to sink their battleships and carriers. We are going to sink the United States because we will turn this into a quagmire as big or bigger than Vietnam. They would need millions of men to keep this country occupied. They would have hundreds of thousands of deaths. Imperialism is not strong enough to withstand this. And it demonstrated this in Vietnam. [applause]

[Announcer] On repeated occasions during the meeting, the delegates expressed recognition of the internationalist and solidary spirit that characterizes the Cuban people. They also said how glad they were to have the commander in chief attending this student event. Regarding the importance of organizations such as the continental organization of Latin American students, Fidel stated: [video shows two men speaking, quickly cut off] We have had difficulties with the videotape. We apologize. We hope to move along with the commander in chief's participation in the CLAE meeting.

Notes Latin Revolutionaries

FL160402 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0302 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpts] In response to a question asked by a delegate participating in the Eighth Latin American Congress of Students [CLAE], Fidel indicated that the foreign debt, despite its negative effect, has contributed to our peoples' awareness of the contradictions between the United States and our countries. [passage omitted]

He also explained the result of the unequal trade which has a negative effect in our goods and the cost of equipment poor countries have to import. He said the most powerful capitalist country in the world implements without consideration to Third World countries. [passage omitted]

The Haitian delegate referred to the transcendancy of the Cuban revolution and said that during the days when dictator Duvalier was ousted some slogans referring to Cuba were seen written on some walls. Fidel said no freedom-seeking process has been able to be successful without paying a high price with the loss of valuable lives. He mentioned Sandino and his worthy army, Che and his guerrillas, as well as other movements on our continent. Explaining his remark, "now we are really going to build socialism," the commander in chief said it was related to his meeting with Raul in the area known as Tres Palmas. He indicated that currently he is as convinced of the triumph of our society as he was of the raise to power of the working class and of the revolution at that time. [passage omitted]

Referring to internationalist practices he asserted that our country has thousands of laborers and peasants who have offered their services to other countries that have needed them in the military and civilian areas. He added that currently close to 22,000 foreign scholarship holders study in Cuba. This is one of the highest percentages in the world in relation to our population.

Finally, the party's first secretary expressed his confidence that this continent's youth will be able to continue carrying ahead the cause of Latin American dignity.

Blames U.S. for Defense Costs

FL162114 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1254 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Video speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro at the Eighth Latin American Congress of Students, CLAE, in Havana's Palace of Conventions on 15 January -- recorded]

[Text] During the more than 3 hours of dialogue, it became obvious on several occasions that the delegates [to the Eighth Latin American Congress of Students, CLAE] recognized the Cuban peoples' profound spirit of internationalism and solidarity and, above all, the productiveness of the meeting with the president of Cuba.

[Castro, shown seated at a table] Rather than giving a speech, it seems to me that it would be better to let you speak, if you would like to ask any questions about Cuba, its positions, whatever topic interests you.

[Student] How much does it cost or how much does the increase in the imperialist's warlike armament policy cost the Cuban revolution to assign large amounts of resources towards the idea of defense to be able to defeat an imperialist aggression?

[Castro] Well, you are not the only ones who have a U.S. military base. We also have a U.S. military base. They took a piece of land by force based on a treaty signed at the beginning of the century. They did not even give it an expiration date. If we have a political battle to liberate it... [changes thought] because that will not be resolved with weapons. It would be erroneous, completely in error. That is what the Yankees would like. It is possible that we would have a reason to use force to liberate that territory but we would prefer to assist in liberating other much larger territories.

And it has helped me in one way or another because the enemy has to be presented with the battle at the proper time.

We have our political demand and we will continue with our political and legal demands. We have all the checks they pretend... [corrects himself] that they submit every year pretending to pay rent, which to us ultimately is great proof that we are the proprietors because proprietors are paid rent. They pay \$2,000. What do you think of this, with this devaluated dollar? [Castro laughs] In comparison to the beginning of the century, it is probably worth 5 centavos. What they pay us, they pay us [repeats himself] one-twentieth of the part... [changes thought] 5 percent of what they (?used to pay) because we have saved all the checks.

The problem of the bases is a common problem. They have used Puerto Rico for all this. The troops that committed the felony and crime of invading Grenada departed from Puerto Rico. They are trying to train people there because they like to use Latin American blood as Latin American cannon fodder for their military adventures. It was the same in Korea and Vietnam. They prefer to use black and Latin American citizens in their adventurous wars and, naturally, this commits us to a great effort. They do not force us. They have kept us under a permanent military threat in addition to the economic blockade which costs us. We estimate that the economic blockade has cost us billions of dollars. If we add the cost of the military threat... [changes thought] the cost of the U.S. military threat has cost us 20, 25, or 30 billion pesos [as heard]. That figure is not exaggerated.

How many... [changes thought] not just that, how many very brave cadres do we employ in the defense area? How many brave revolutionaries, intelligent, capable boys, and organized workers do we employ? We use an enormous amount of human resources.

We are trying to measure here with money but you have dozens of thousands of cadres dedicated to defense tasks who could be dedicated to education, development, productive activities. And measuring this in money is more or less the figure [word indistinct]. We prefer to pay the price in billions of pesos than to pay in dozens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of lives, than to pay the price in blood. Among other things, if this country is not invaded, it is because of our efforts, our capability to resist. That is what has checked, that is what is checking [an invasion] now.

We are very far from any socialist country. If we are invaded by the United States, we will have to defend ourselves. They have absolute air, naval, and military superiority in this area and we will have to struggle alone because of our geographic reality. We have never hesitated. That is one positive aspect when one knows that his defense depends on his own effort. A country feels very independent when it knows that it depends on itself for defense. That has also strengthened our spirit of independence, our confidence, and our pride, our healthy pride. We ourselves, alone, provide the human effort. I refer to our skin, our blood. We are...[changes thought] alone, we are able to stop the imperialists, to convert ourselves into an unconquerable country.

I believe this also strengthens patriotic and revolutionary feelings. I believe that a revolution goes farther the more it has to make efforts to achieve it. I would say that the development of a revolution is directly related to the sacrifices it has to make to conduct and preserve it. This is why that in the case of Nicaragua we have seen that this dirty war has greatly strengthened the Nicaraguan revolution and it has given it a dreadful strength. A great peoples' army with very good combative capabilities and a very efficient army has resulted from that war of almost 4 or 5 years.

[Student] To conclude I would like to say that most of our views are shaped through the information we obtain, as you said, from news agencies and within this framework, on behalf of all the other Chilean leaders of all ideological tendencies who have had the opportunity to visit Cuba, I thank you because this is the only way of overcoming this information obstacle and also for increasing the Latin American unity. Because as I said at a CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] event held this week, it is very likely that the revolution we are going to conduct in Chile will be different from this one but one thing is very clear, the two revolutions will never be enemies. Thank you commander. [applause]

[Castro] That is so true. There are big differences of style and shape between the Nicaraguan revolution and ours and we are two countries that are very close, very fraternal. Our relations are very old. However, they conduct their revolution their own way and we conduct ours another. I believe each country -- it cannot be any other way -- will do it with its own special characteristics according to the situation of the country.

[Announcer] Referring to this student movement which aims at a greater continental unity that can hold a congress such as this one. Fidel said:

[Castro] We can say that you are privileged by having an organization of Latin American students. You are actually very privileged. We would have loved to have something like that. Also this Latin American student youth has much more political maturity -- the others were not bad -- but its political training is much better. I would say that in general they have more anti-imperialist positions as a rule. There were many anti-imperialist positions as a rule. There were many anti-imperialist students, those from Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, even those of the Liberal Party I am not referring to students of the Communist Party but those of Gaitan's Liberal Party, the nationalists, not the Arnulfo Arias Nationalists but those patriotic students who were very anti-Yankee because of the canal. The students who were members of the Democratic Action Party at that time were also anti-imperialists, very active as were, of course, Dominican students and Puerto Rican students with their independence movement.

There is much more maturity in the Latin American students' political thought which, in my opinion, is a result of these situations I was explaining to the delegate from Trinidad. I believe students have a very important role to play in this struggle to the extent they are capable of continuing to mature, developing their ideas as you are demonstrating here. These problems related to peace are new problems.

During my time, in 1947, the first bomb had exploded in Hiroshima... [corrects himself] in 1948, only 3 years before. This abyss we have today did not exist, this threat of nuclear holocaust. I listen to you with great admiration when you discuss subjects such as peace, arms race, foreign debt, and the combination of all these factors because you are living in an entirely new world.

Closes Last Congress Session

FL161504 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, gave a special speech at the last working session of the Eighth Latin American Congress of Students, which concluded yesterday in Havana after 4 days of work.

In his statements, our highest leader referred to Cuba's advancements in education and public health, which are sectors the state assigns 1,700 and 700 million pesos to annually, respectively, and he made comparisons with the squandering practiced by some Latin American governments with the resources designated for those areas.

Responding to questions for delegates, Fidel affirmed that Cuba has never pretended to be a liberating factor for Latin American or Caribbean countries even though it is indisputable, he said, that our revolutionary process has played an important role in the history of the region and influenced the elevation of the political capacity of area peoples.

After referring to the injustices of the foreign debt problem, Fidel said that one should not only consider brain drain, but also capital flight, and he stressed that in 1985 alone, the extraction of resources totalled \$70 million.

Later, he analyzed the egotistic policy of the United States in reference to the sugar markets. [passage omitted]

MELENDEZ NOTES ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

FL161718 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the State Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, has said that Cuba currently maintains relations of that type with 72 nations and 20 international organizations. It is a true achievement when compared to the 15 countries who practiced bilateral cooperation through these ties in 1960.

JAMAICANATIONAL WORKERS UNION OBJECTS TO WAGE CEILING

FL160114 Bridgetown CANA in English 1717 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 15, CANA -- The opposition-aligned National Workers Union (NWU) objected to a 10 per cent wage increase ceiling in Jamaica's new agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), saying it will mean further sacrifices for workers. Wage guideline policies, under any government, has never found favour with the unions, the NWU said in a statement.

In this regard, the National Workers Union must declare its stated objections to the announced policy of wage guidelines, particularly where it serves to limit the purchasing power of workers and reduce their standards of living.

The restriction on pay hikes was among the conditions laid down by the IMF for the U.S. 138.2 million dollar standby credit facility which extends over the next 15 months.

The NWU said the ceiling, announced by Prime Minister Edward Seaga Tuesday night [13 January], merely formalised existing arrangements, since the Ministry of Labour had not in the past five years settled a wage dispute above 10 per cent. Average wages here went up by 12.5 per cent last year, Seaga said.

However, the government under its previous IMF agreement, which was scuttled last year, had a 15 per cent wage guideline.

The government expects to compensate for the cap on wages with lower inflation this year -- at 7 per cent against over 13 per cent last year.

It also is maintaining, for the duration of the agreement, price controls that were reintroduced last year on a range of basic foods, and spreading the net wider to a few other products. Before the agreement, unions here had objected to any planned cap on wages and removal of price controls.

The NWU said that while its fear of price control had been allayed, it could not limit itself to this issue. The fact is, the government continues to ignore the social wage, which is an important component of the living standards of the workers, it said.

It said the IMF package did nothing to reduce the overall 82.3 per cent decline in real wages for Jamaican workers over the past eight years, while companies were offered incentives in the form of the reduction of corporate taxes.

Planned heavy reduction of import duties was also bound to upset employment here, it said.

The Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU), the other major big union here and which is aligned to the ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP), is yet to respond to the package.

BOUTERSE SAYS NETHERLANDS CAN REPLACE ENVOY

FL192200 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Holland can replace Ambassador Van Houten, who was requested to leave Suriname by January 25th, with another ambassador. This was announced yesterday by head of government Desi Bouterse, during a meeting of the Records Board.

The government had earlier decided to scale down the relations with Holland at charge d'affaires level but the top-deliberating council thought this was too heavy a measure. On Bouterse's request, the government agreed with the standpoint of the top-deliberating council.

Van Houten was asked to leave Suriname, because his reports on Suriname, in some cases, were untrue.

REBELS ATTACK ARMY CONVOY, KILL 2 SOLDIERS

FL192103 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] On Friday last [16 January], two soldiers died in the Blakkawatra area some 80 km south of Paramaribo.

Members of the terrorist gang of Brunswijk opened fire on a convoy of the National Army, which was transporting casualties to Paramaribo. The soldiers, (Oplong) and (Dorf), died in the attacks while several others, among them a member of the peoples' militia, were wounded.

Reports say that during the mopping-up exercises of the National Army, seven terrorists were killed and several others were wounded.